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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 100

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75¢

Gov. Teno passes away, 84

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A revered figure in CNMI history passed away early yesterday morning at the Commonwealth Health Center after succumbing to old age and other complications.

Tenorio

Considered the second and fifth governor of the CNMI, Pedro "Teno" P. Tenorio, the only governor to date to have held the gubernatorial position for three terms (1982 to 1986, 1986 to 1990, and 1998 to 2002), passed away at 2:35am at CHC. He was 84.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres described Tenorio as a "true statesman," even before the establish-

See GOV. TENO on Page 4

'M/V *Luta* in Guam, has new owner'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The controversial cargo ship M/V *Luta* is already in Guam and another company now owns the vessel, according to attorney George L. Hasselback yesterday.

Hasselback told *Saipan Tribune* that his client, Takahisa Yamamoto, has returned to Japan and that no settlement agreement was reached between Yamamoto, Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, Luta Mermaid LLC, and the Mendiolas of Rota.

Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T. Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola

See M/V *LUTA* on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

➤ Hocog doesn't object to dismissing investor's lawsuit. PAGE 3

SAIPAN-JAPAN FLIGHTS
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Skymark Airlines president Masahiko Ichie are joined by MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Christopher Tenorio, members of the MVA and CPA boards, and staff after a lunch meeting on Friday. Torres and Skymark Airlines officially agreed to launch direct flights between the CNMI and Japan during the upcoming winter schedule. Skymark Airlines is Japan's third largest carrier headquartered at Haneda Airport in Tokyo and will be the first Japan-based carrier in the CNMI since 2005, when Japan Airlines closed its Saipan office.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PIC to consolidate workers with E-Land

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club Saipan, as part of the E-Land Group, would try to consolidate its staff with the two other hotel properties operated on Saipan by the South Korean company in order to fill the expected shortage from their workforce due to the current CW1 issue.

PIC general manager Gloria Cavanagh said they are already looking for a solution and one would be is to work out a staffing schedule of all of the three hotels under the E-Land Group.

PIC is one of three hotel properties that E-Land operates in the CNMI that includes Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort and Kensington Hotel Saipan.

See PIC on Page 4

NMI student cracks Math League Top 10

Team CNMI member Frederick Dean Michael Guintu cracked the Top 10 of the Math League national finals, with the Commonwealth bets ending up third overall in the Team Relay event in competitions held Saturday at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Jushua Qiu and Kichang Jeong joined Guintu, a ninth grader at Saipan International School, in the CNMI team that finished tied for third with Waverly-Shell Rock Community Schools and Valley Christian High in the relay event.

Guintu had a total score of 68 points to finish 10th in the individual

See NMI on Page 4

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Frederick Dean Michael Guintu shows his individual award after placing 10th in the Math League National Finals held last Saturday at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

INSIDE

LOCAL
The Pacific Islands Club unveils its first Precinct 1 bus shelter yesterday.
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ASIA
Manila takes a non-confrontational stand vs China in sea feud.
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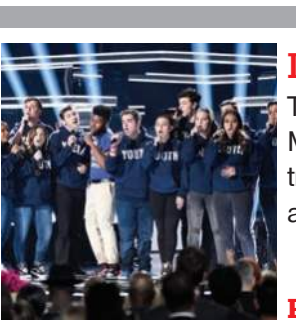
LIFE & STYLE
The 2018 Billboard Music Awards pays tribute to the students and teachers.
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Local

Man found guilty of assault but not of biting another

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Superior Court jury reached a verdict yesterday that found a man guilty of assaulting another man with a knife and chair during a dispute over apartment rent in San Antonio, but not guilty of biting the victim's hand.

The six jurors found 30-year-old Jiang Hong Sheng guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

The three charges refer to Sheng's assault on Ye Fang with a knife and hitting him on the head with a chair, and for physically attacking him and threatening to hurt and/or kill the victim and his family.

The incident happened at Fang's home on June 6, 2017.

The jurors, however, determined that Sheng, also known as Jacky, was not guilty of offenses relating to Sheng allegedly biting Fang's hand and of attacking the victim at his home that caused Fang's wife, Lan Hua Wang, to run outside and yell for help.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo set the sentencing for Nov. 27 at 1:30pm. He ordered the Office of the Adult Probation to prepare a presentence investigation report.

Govendo commended the opposing counsels for making the trial run smoothly.

Assistant attorney general Robert "Charlie" Lee is the lead counsel for the government. Frances Demapan assisted Lee during the trial. Assistant public defender Nancy Dominski is counsel for Sheng.

Govendo said the government and the defense made a lot of stipulation, saving enormous amount of time, that Lee, Demapan, and Dominski should serve as a model for all attorneys in the CNMI for handling the trial.

"That's the way it should be. It is beneficial to both of your clients," Govendo said.

Assistant public defender Dominski refused to comment about the verdict.

Lee thanked the jurors, but refused to comment about the verdict.

The trial started last Monday, May 14. The prosecution called seven witnesses, while the defense called only one witness, Sheng. The jurors started deliberating Friday afternoon and continued it yesterday morning.

Fang has filed a separate civil case against Sheng for battery, assault, and intentional infliction of emotional distress over the same incident.

According to the complaint, Fang rents an apartment from Sheng in San Antonio. Fang lent Sheng $7,150 for a real estate investment.

On June 6, 2017, the two got into an argument because Sheng allegedly told Fang that he does not want to pay off the loan balance until Fang had moved out of the apartment building.

The argument escalated, leading to Sheng attacking Fang.

JON PEREZ

Northern Marianas College's first president, Dr. Catherine "Kit" Porter Van Meter, center, joins Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, eighth left, current NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, fifth left, and the NMC Board of Regents led by chair Charles V. Cepeda, left, and regents Zenie P. Mafnas, second left, and Jesus M. Tudela, ninth left, after last Saturday's 38th Commencement Exercises at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. First lady Diann Torres, eighth left, and Rep. Blas Jonathan Attao, right, are also in the photo.

Dr. Kit reminisces about NMC's first year

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In her first time to return on Saipan after leaving the CNMI in 1985, Dr. Catherine "Kit" Porter Van Meter couldn't help waxing nostalgic.

Speaking in front of 257 NMC graduates on Saturday at the Northern Marianas College's 38th Commencement Exercise at the Marianas High School Gymnasium, Van Meter, NMC's first president, said that NMC at that time hardly had any rooms.

Van Meter said that they used to share classrooms with high school students during the first year of NMC, which was then known as Northern Marianas Community College. "We're just starting to move to the Nursing School back then and we just had a few rooms.

"We used rooms for our classes at the Northern Marianas High School back then. We used them at night. We also had a computer lab that high school students could also use. Look at the campus now. It has wonderful facilities."

She helped explore the possibility of having higher education alternatives in the CNMI and coordinated the establishment of NMC, of which she became the chief executive officer in 1979 before assuming the presidency four years later.

"It was a lot of work when the CNMI officially became a commonwealth. It was a big time for change and also exciting…going from a trust territory to a commonwealth," said Van Meter. "…We had to go to D.C. to convince people that CNMI had a college and needed help with funds and to also connect to the [mainland] to be part of the U.S. family."

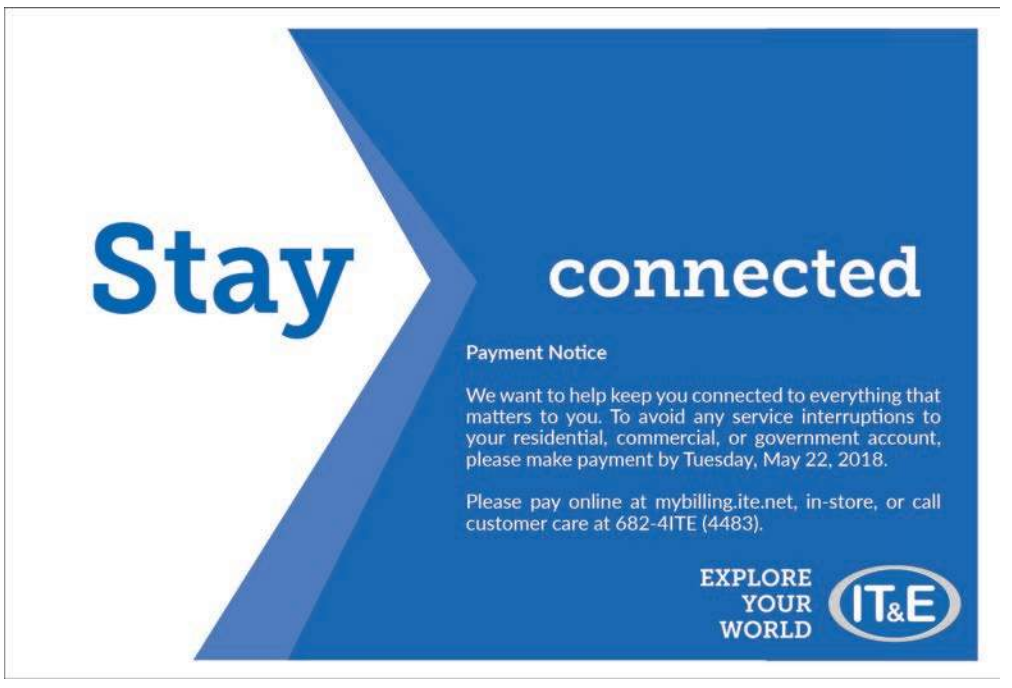
She added that NMCC back then she only had six staff and even showed off a program about the first graduation ceremony, which still looked as if it was printed today.

NMCC's staff included Luis S. Chong (scholarship officer II), Jose C. Leon Guerrero (Teacher Training coordinator), Luis N. Limes (ABE specialist II), Susana T. Mafnas (Student Service coordinator), Abel R. Olopai (chief training officer), and Jean B. Olopai (acting director of Admissions and Records). "Back then, we're trying to get teachers and nurses their certification. So, they were already working and some had families. It was hard to go off island to study," said Van Meter.

There were a total of 25 students that first graduated at NMCC back then and Van Meter lauded the current graduates in the fields of Education, Business, Accounting, Criminal Justice, Nursing, Natural Resources Management, and Liberal Arts for their accomplishments. "As college graduates, you will be deciding when you need help reaching your goals. At the right time, advice and examples can make obtaining goals possible," she said.

Hart was the keynote speaker in last Saturday's graduation ceremony. She arrived last Thursday, spoke in front of 257 NMC graduates on Saturday, and visited Rota yesterday, the same island where she first taught English as a Second Language in 1967.

She left the CNMI to finish her postgraduate studies in Vermont, but was invited to return to the Commonwealth in 1975.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DPS overtime costs significantly down

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety reports that its overtime expenditures has gone down significantly compared to the previous fiscal year budget request.

At the budget hearing on Friday, DPS officials told the House Ways and Means Committee chaired by Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) that their overtime cost this year is just a little over $400,000 compared to fiscal year 2017's $2.2 million.

According to DPS Commissioner Robert Guerrero, the massive decrease in overtime costs is because they had more officers to rotate the shift times. He added that the academy is also expected to graduate another cycle this July, resulting in an additional 30 officers. Because of that, DPS is asking for additional funding for fuel.

"[DPS] has agreed that the governor's proposal was something that they can work with. We may just have to do some adjustments to increase the fuel allocations because we expect to see more patrol vehicles on the streets," said Demapan in an interview.

According to DPS administration director Kay Inos, DPS is requesting a budget of over $10.6 million while the governor's budget proposal for the department is over $7.8 million.

Despite the larger fuel consumption, Demapan said the decrease in overtime expense is a "major accomplishment."

"Last year, at this point [of budget discussions], we were talking about...over $2 million in overtime costs. Today, we are only looking at about $400,000 in the fiscal year so far," he said.

For fiscal year 2018, DPS is proposed a budget of $6.6 million, while the budget proposal for fiscal year 2019 is currently at $7.8 million.

Demapan said DPS was one of the government agencies fortunate to receive $1 million in additional funding. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres had proposed a budget of $258.1 million for DPS in fiscal year 2019, an increase of $21.4 million compared to fiscal year 2018.

"As we see more funding resources become available, there is more of a concerted effort to spread that increase in revenues across the board," said Demapan, adding that DPS has had an increased budget proposal of 22 percent compared to fiscal year 2018.

Woman in recruitment scam gets 8 months in prison

The federal court on Friday slapped an eight-month prison term against Arlene D. Hart, the president of a now-defunct corporation who pleaded guilty to recruiting Filipino workers for a fee in exchange for fraudulent jobs on Saipan.

Hart, also known as Arlene H. Silva, was allowed to spend four months of her eight-month sentence on home confinement.

She will then be placed on one year of supervised release.

Hart was ordered to perform 50 hours of community service and to pay a $200 court assessment fee.

"I do hope this will be the final encounter," U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona told Hart.

Hart previously served five months in prison after being convicted in the Superior Court of stealing money from her former employer.

Manglona was initially inclined to impose the full imprisonment sentence on Hart, without home confinement, but was impressed with Hart's immediate acceptance of responsibility and for making payments to the victims prior to her sentencing.

Hart, 56, burst into tears as she apologized to the court, to the U.S. government, and victims.

Hart said she did not have any intention to hurt her employees.

"I know that I made a mistake. I want to accept my responsibility. I lost my company. I lost my employees," Hart said.

Defense counsel David Banes said Hart cooperated with the U.S. government right from the beginning.

Banes said Hart acknowledged that she made poor choices.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto said that Hart had no obligation to pay restitution to the victims, but she essentially voluntarily made payments to the victims.

The victims who are in the Philippines were already compensated.

Manglona agreed that no further restitution is required. She commended Cong Nie, who is Banes' co-counsel who submitted the memorandum pertaining to restitution matter.

Benedetto said Hart submitted documents or declarations that are materially fraudulent and that charging fees from the workers is clearly prohibited under the law.

Benedetto said the U.S. government would be happy with the 12-month prison term. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

'Coffee with a Cop' returns

The popular Coffee with A Cop returned for a second run at the Middle Road branch of McDonald's Saipan, giving members of the public a brief chance to sit down with police officers and share a cup of coffee for one-on-one conversations.

According to Mable Ayuyu, executive assistant to the president of McDonald's Saipan/Guam, Coffee with a Cop allows community members to approach police officers with any issues they may have or to just converse with the local police force.

"…they can discuss issues they may have within their neighborhood, or they can share their experiences working with cops, or thank the cops for their hard work. … There is no agenda, there is no formal presentation," she said.

According to DPS highway patrol officer Norris Quan, he was approached by a couple of community members about the lack of enforcers.

"For example, there are a lot of cars now and people but the number of officers still remain the same as before," he said.

Quan said the event could have been better if there was more public participation. One of the improvements he strongly suggests is to consider having Coffee with A Cop on the weekends.

Ayuyu said she was in favor of hosting the event on the weekend to garner more participation but the weekends tend to be the busiest for both McDonald's and DPS. "We wanted to do it when it's best for our business and for our cops… maybe we can explore hosting this on a weekend because I'm sure there will be more people during that time," she said.

Although there weren't as many community members involved as planned, this year's Coffee with A Cop was larger in terms of officers because it involved other sectors in the law enforcement and public safety division like Division of Customs and the Department of Corrections.

DPS public relations officer Jackie Rae said that, because its Public Safety Awareness Week, it was decided that all sectors relating to public safety should join Coffee with A Cop.

"It's just good to get to know your fellow officers in public safety," she said.

DPS police officer Patrick Arriola said the event rids the notion that police officers are unapproachable and intimidating.

"It's another way of sitting down normally as human beings…it's an environment where we can just talk about life and talk about…law enforcement and for us to hear our community," he said. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Hocog doesn't object to dismissing investor's lawsuit relating to vessel

Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Thursday that he does not object to Takahisa Yamamoto's motion to dismiss his lawsuit against him and the owners of cargo ship M/V *Luta*.

Hocog, through counsel F. Randall Cunliffe, entered his non-objection to Yamamoto's motion to drop his lawsuit.

Yamamoto, through counsel George L. Hasselback, filed the motion to drop the case without prejudice last May 3. The court has yet to act on the motion.

Dismissal without prejudice means Yamamoto may re-file the case in the future.

At a status conference last April 26, Hasselback told the court of Yamamoto's intent to drop his lawsuit against the controversial cargo ship M/V *Luta* and its owners and Hocog.

Hasselback then filed the motion to dismiss all remaining claims in the case last May 3.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy stated that the hearing on Yamamoto's motion to dismiss will be scheduled before Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, once it is filed.

William Fitzgerald appeared at the status conference as counsel for M/V *Luta*, its owner Luta Mermaid LLC, and Luta Mermaid officers Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T. Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola III, and Hocog.

Last April 2, Hasselback and Fitzgerald informed the court about their ongoing settlement talks.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog, Luta Mermaid, and the Mendiolas for allegedly refusing to pay back the $3.4 million that he put up for the vessel. The vessel was seized shortly after the U.S. Marshal Service seized the ship on Oct. 25, 2016. National Maritime Services was then appointed as substitute custodian of the vessel.

On Feb. 22, 2017, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter ordered the immediate release of M/V *Luta* to its owner, Luta Mermaid LLC, after Yamamoto reached the settlement agreement with the ship's former custodian, NMS.

NMS sued Yamamoto for failing to pay custodian fees. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

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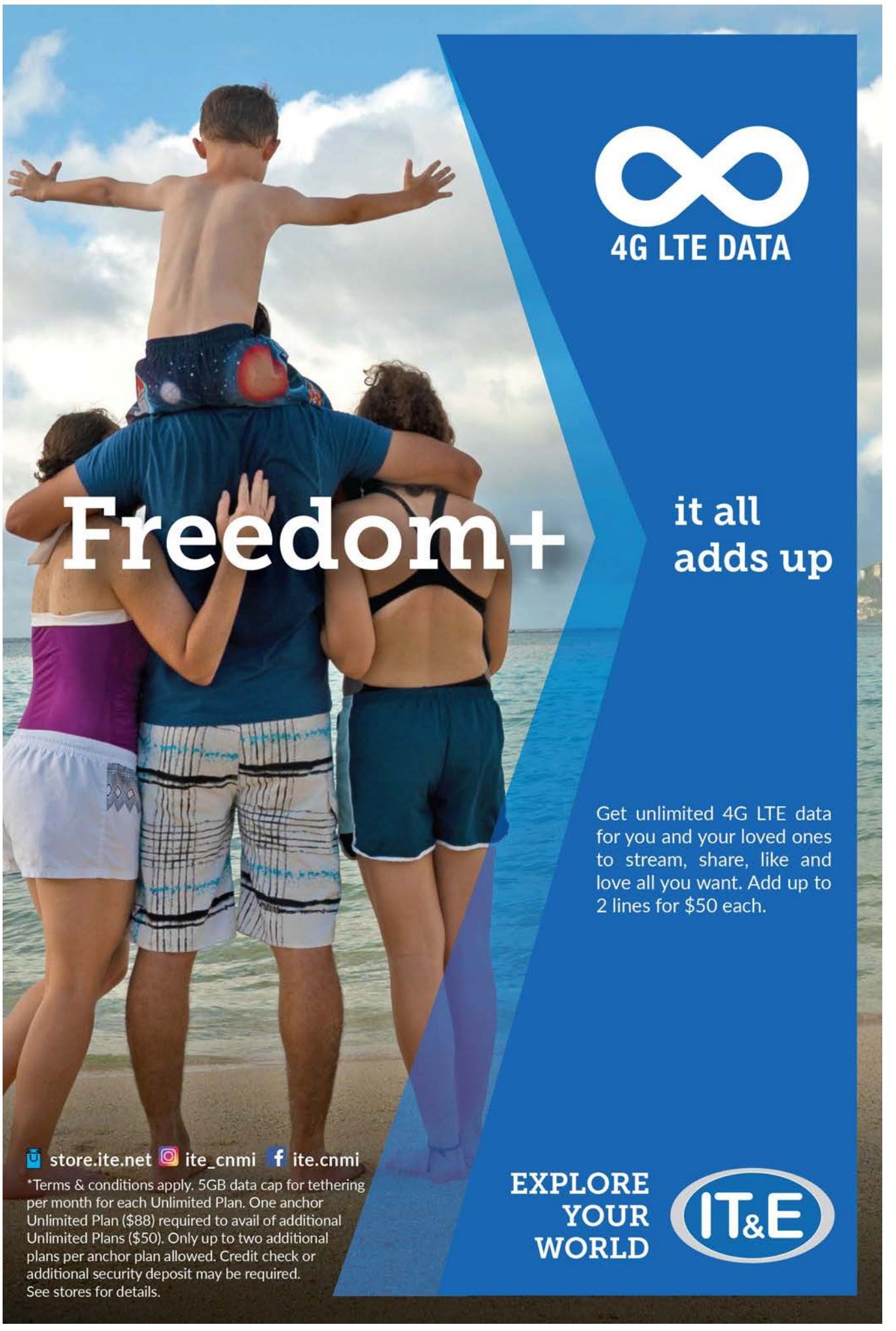
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Constitutional amendment up for talks today

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A proposed amendment to the CNMI Constitution is up for discussion on Tinian today.

Rep. Alice Igitol's (R-Saipan) House Legislative Initiative 20-01 seeks to use $1 million from accrued interest obtained through the Marianas Public Land Trust to pay for health insurance of eligible individuals of Northern Marianas descent, while the remaining accrued interest is deposited into a special account for distribution to eligible NMDs annually.

According to Igitol, a joint public hearing between the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee led by chair Rep. Ivan Blanco (R-Saipan) and the House Natural Resources Committee led by Igitol would be held today at the Tinian courthouse at 5pm.

The public hearing would also be held on House Speaker Rafael Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-157, which intends to establish a new pension fund for the CNMI, and Sen. Francisco Borja's (R-Tinian) Senate Bill 20-79, which intends to address mayoral vacancies for terms in which lass than half has been completed.

Igitol's H.L.I. 20-01 has garnered the support of four other members of the House; a public hearing on Rota for the same constitutional amendment has already been done on Rota. Saipan would soon follow after Tinian.

GOV. TENO

From Page 1

This file photo provided by the Office of the Governor shows former governor Pedro P. Tenorio.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ment of the CNMI.

"His leadership qualities represented the people he served as he worked tirelessly to provide a strong foundation for our young Commonwealth. Heading into the new millennium, he addressed the government's dismal financial condition, reduced the deficit, and generated surpluses during his third term as governor. He oversaw the largest number of visitor arrivals to our islands and the peak of our Japanese tourism market. He improved our relationship with the federal government by seeking cooperation to help fix the Commonwealth's labor and immigration. He also advocated for increased federal grant money to improve our islands' infrastructure for the future, and it is represented everyday when we walk into the Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, a structure named in honor of him," Torres said in a statement.

Torres directed both CNMI and federal flags to be flown at half-staff in Tenorio's memory until the day of his interment.

Torres said he had the opportunity to visit Tenorio just before his passing.

"[First lady] Diann and I visited [former] governor Teno just before his passing, and we are very saddened by a big loss for our islands. But we are very thankful for all the work he has done for the Commonwealth. I sincerely thank him for all his dedication at the very beginning of our Commonwealth, and we continue to support programs he began. He will not be forgotten," he said.

In a statement, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang described Tenorio as a "staunch public servant" who accomplished vast achievements.

"His tenure as governor of the CNMI established foundations upon which our current day successes sprang and continue to do so," he said. "He worked hard and ensured the CNMI stayed the course toward self-sufficiency and a competitor in the Asia-Pacific global economy. We will miss him dearly and will always thank him for the vision he charted for the Commonwealth," Apatang said. "We will always remember you in our prayers."

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), in a statement, extended his condolences to Tenorio's wife, Sophia, and son, Perry, and Perry's wife, Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

"Governor Teno, as he was fondly known, contributed immensely to the formative years of our Commonwealth…He will be dearly missed," he said. "As we remember the work and legacy of an honorable statesman, a grateful Commonwealth remembers."

Tenorio served as a member of the Congress of Micronesia House of Representatives during the Trust Territory days of the CNMI before later serving the 1st CNMI Legislature as a senator representing Saipan from 1978 to 1980. He was also Senate vice president and Senate Programs Committee chairman for the 1st CNMI Legislature.

From 1980 to 1982, Tenorio served his second term as a Saipan senator for the 2nd CNMI Legislature as Senate president, before being sworn into the chief executive position for the CNMI in 1982.

Tenorio was re-elected for the gubernatorial position in 1985 before being elected for a third term as CNMI governor in 1997.

Tenorio is the fourth eldest of eight children to the late Blas P. Tenorio and the late Guadalupe S. Pangelinan. Tenorio is survived by siblings Cecilia, Juan, and Ramona; children Peter Michael, Ruth, Patrick James, Paul Gilbert, Perry John, Reina Sophia, Roslyn, and Rebecca; and wife Sophia.

A daily memorial Mass would be conducted at 6am at the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

PIC

From Page 1

PIC has a total of 94 staff; 23 of its CW1 workers had their petitions for renewal rejected by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"This is devastating. The range of acceptance is 10 to 52 percent. We are hoping the NMI workforce bill [S. 2325] passes soon," Cavanagh told *Saipan Tribune*.

Both the CNMI government and the business community are waiting for U.S. Congress to act on the legislation introduced by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) to remedy the CNMI's workforce issues.

"The rejected ones are mostly culinary and engineering. We will probably close at least one restaurant," said Cavanagh. "Since we are part of the E-Land Group, in the worst case, we will try to consolidate what we have and work within our staffing amongst the three properties."

She added that E-Land had been participating in various internship programs like the one being given by the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. "We've been training and participating in the NMTI internship programs. However, the engineering department is a big loss," said Cavanagh, who is also the president of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

She added that more than 50 percent of HANMI workers are foreigners, which include personnel that are either CW1s or holders of other U.S. employment visas.

"HANMI, as a whole, only have less than 44 percent foreign workers, which would include visas other than CW. These workers are mostly in engineering and culinary. We are currently trying to accumulate the statistics on the total numbers," she said.

USCIS lopped off a large portion of available CW1 slots for fiscal year 2019, from 12,998 slots to 4,999. USCIS received more than the cap for all CW1 renewals last year, prompting them to use a random lottery system on which petition would be approved.

The hardest hit was the Commonwealth Health Center, the CNMI's lone hospital, as all of their CW1 nurses were denied that could pose problems in providing healthcare.

PIC is one of the many business establishments in the CNMI that rely on foreign labor. Some auto shops have either cut down hours or no longer accept cars that need repairs after their mechanics were also capped out.

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC was also affected, with a number of their casino staff, which previously worked in casinos in the Philippines, opting to not renew their contracts due to the uncertainty of their employment status in the Commonwealth.

M/V *LUTA*

From Page 1

III are officers of Luta Mermaid LLC.

A source said Yamamoto is very disappointed, considering that he spent millions of dollars for M/V *Luta*.

Yamamoto recently notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI that he intends to drop his lawsuit against Hocog, Luta Mermaid LLC, and the Mendiolas, with an option to refile the case in the future.

When asked by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday about an update on the M/V *Luta* issue, Hasselback said it is his understanding that the ship is no longer in the CNMI and that it's been relocated to Guam with a new owner.

Hasselback said he has no information as to when the ship was transferred to Guam.

Hasselback also stated that Yamamoto will also oppose the request of Luta Mermaid and LLC to be paid court costs and attorney's fees.

Luta Mermaid and the Mendiolas, through their counsel, William M. Fitzgerald, stated that the court found that the arrest of M/V *Luta* was improper and that Yamamoto did not have probable cause to arrest the vessel, and that the arrest could not stand.

Fitzgerald said his clients spent a lot of money in payment of costs and attorneys' fees to gain release of the vessel and the dismissal of the suit should be conditioned upon an order requiring Yamamoto to pay the costs and fees.

Fitzgerald was not available yesterday for comments about M/V *Luta* allegedly being relocated to Guam.

Hocog, through counsel, informed the court last week that he is not objecting to Yamamoto's motion to dismiss his lawsuit.

Last April 2, Hasselback and Fitzgerald informed the court about their ongoing settlement talks.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog, Luta Mermaid, and the Mendiolas for allegedly refusing to pay back the $3.4 million that he put up for the vessel.

In February 2017, the CNMI government, through the Office of the Attorney General, filed a lawsuit against Luta Mermaid and the Mendiolas for allegedly refusing to return the $400,000 in public funds that was loaned to them for the ship's operations.

The case is pending in Superior Court.

In May 2016, former Department of Public Lands secretary John DelRosario filed a taxpayer's lawsuit against Hocog and Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson over the alleged adoption of a Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 19-3 that purportedly authorized the payment of $400,000 to Luta Mermaid, a private company owned by the Mendiolas, who are Hocog's relatives.

In December 2016, Superior Court Judge Pro Tempore Timothy H. Bellas dismissed DelRosario's claims against Hocog, saying his conduct is covered by legislative immunity.

In July 2017, Bellas dismissed DelRosario's claims against Larson after both parties agreed to settle the case.

NMI

From Page 1

category, with 30 and 38 in the Target and Sprint events. He was a point behind a competitor from Iowa City West High.

This could be the first time that a student from the CNMI managed to clinch a Top 10 spot in the Math League national finals, which gathers more than 300 participants from all U.S. states and territories.

It was the fifth time that Guintu, who finished second in the CNMI MathCourt State Championship last month, has represented the CNMI in the national finals. He has been competing in the CNMI MathCourt on Saipan since Kindergarten.

The CNMI also came in ninth in the Team Sweepstakes with 112.833 points, just 1.667 points short of eighth-placer Blue Valley Southwest.

The team—coached by Manny Borja and Dina Duenas—left last Thursday, May 17, and will return to the CNMI today, May 22.

Surui Huan, James Lee, and Junhee Lee are the other members of the CNMI Math League team. ***(Jon Perez)***

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2016 Yaris
5-Door HB, 4-cy, Auto, FWD, Blue, STK#U18-041R
NOW $12,999*

2003 Lexus ES 300
4-Door, V6, Auto, FWD, Red, STK#U18-011T
NOW $7,699*

2013 Mazda 5 Minivan
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, STK#U18-34T
NOW $11,299*

2016 Yaris
5-Door HB, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Red, STK#U18-039R
NOW $13,199*

2016 Yaris
5-Door HB, 4-cy, Auto, FWD, Red, STK#U18-043R
NOW $13,699*

2015 Mazda 3 iSport
4-Door, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Gray, STK#U18-033T
NOW $13,999*

2014 Toyota Yaris, FWD
FWD, Auto, Gray, STK#R18-003F
WAS $14,999
NOW $14,499*

2007 FJ Cruiser, V6
Manual, 6-spd, 4WD, Red, Mileage 60,105, STK#U17-133T
WAS $17,599
NOW $14,999*

2016 Prius C
4-cyl, Auto, White, STK#U17-136L
WAS $16,999
NOW $15,999*

2017 Yaris L Hatchback
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Red/Black, STK#R17-028F
WAS $16,999
NOW $15,999*

2016 Prius C
4-cyl, Hybrid, Auto, FWD, White, Mileage 21,972
STK#U18-019R
NOW $15,999*

2016 Prius C
4-cyl, Hybrid, Auto, FWD, Blue, Mileage 17,334
STK#U18-017R
NOW $16,199*

2016 Corolla LE
FWD, Auto, 4DR Sedan, Red, STK#R18-006F
WAS $18,699
NOW $17,499*

2016 Scion IM
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, Mileage 10,372
STK#U18-020R
NOW $17,799*

2016 Corolla LE 4-DR sedan
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Green, Mileage 28,773, STK#R18-004F
WAS $18,999
NOW $18,499*

2016 Scion iM
HB, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Blue, Mileage 25,938, STK#U18-021R
NOW $18,699*

2016 Scion IM
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, Mileage 12,937
STK#U18-022R
NOW $18,699*

2016 Corolla LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Red, STK#R18-014F
NOW $18,899*

2017 Corolla LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Black, STK#R18-015F
NOW $20,899*

2016 Camry LE
4-Dr, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver, Mileage 24,399, STK#U18-028R
NOW $22,599*

2013 4Runner SR5
4WD, V-6, Auto, Red, STK#U17-134T
WAS $27,699
NOW $25,499*

2014 Tacoma 2WD, DC
4-cyl, Auto, Gray, STK#U17-139T
WAS $26,899
NOW $25,499*

2015 Highlander LE Sport
4-cyl, Auto, 2WD, Pearl White, STK#U17-135P
WAS $29,399
NOW $25,999*

2012 4Runner Trail Edition
Mileage 30,438, V6, Auto, 4WD, Gray, STK#U17-096P
WAS $34,999
NOW $26,999*

2016 Highlander LE SUV
4-Cyl, Auto, 2WD, Silver, STK#U17-108R
WAS $30,599*
NOW $26,999*

2013 4Runner SR5
V6, Auto, 4WD, Gray, Mileage 46,113
STK#U18-013T
NOW $28,199*

2013 Tacoma
DC, V6, Auto, 4WD, Red, STK#U18-038T
NOW $30,299*

2015 Nissan Xterra
Pro-4X, V6, Auto, 4WD, Red, STK#U18-035T
NOW $30,299*

2016 Sienna, V6
Auto, FWD, White, Mileage 33,929, STK#U18-010L
NOW $30,499*

2017 Tacoma DC, SR
4-cyl, Auto, 2WD, White, Mileage 20,234, STK#R18-012F
NOW $30,999*

2016 4Runner SR5
V6, Auto, 4WD, Silver, STK#U18-027R
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PIC unveils its first bus shelter

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Pacific Islands Club officially unveiled their first Precinct 1 bus shelter yesterday, with the E-Land Group joining local officials to open the bus stop to the public.

The bus shelter, located in San Antonio, signifies the company's pledge to give back to the community. A ribbon cutting to officiate the completion of the San Antonio bus stop was held yesterday with dignitaries, elementary school students, and members of the E-Land Group present.

The E-Land Group, the mother company of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort, and Kensington Hotel, has pledged to give back 10 percent of their earnings to the community they serve.

The restoration or construction of bus stops across the island is one of E-Land's commitments. The construction was overseen by PIC and its general manager Gloria Cavanagh. According to her; it took approximately two months and $15,000 to build.

Dignitaries, E-Land Group members, Pacific Islands Club Saipan staff, and elementary school students cut the ribbon officiating the completion of PIC's first precinct one bus shelter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"We tried to use the same concept that E-Land and Kensington started up north," she said.

Cavanagh said the shelter is only the first of two that will be built in Precinct 1 to ensure the safety of children who take the Public School System bus to and from school.

"This is our first one…we believe that this beautiful structure will add to the aesthetics of our precinct and…the safety of our children," she said.

Gov. Ralph DLG said that he is grateful to E-Land Group for their efforts to give back to the CNMI. "I want to thank them for their contributions to the community…It's always nice to see a company come out and continue their community contributions," he said.

Education Commissioner Glenn Muña said it takes the entire community to ensure that CNMI students are getting the best possible education and a bus stop is vital in getting that education.

"How does a bus stop contribute to education? This is where it starts…our bus drivers are the first and last to receive our students," he said.

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Monday, June 04, 2018
5:00 PM, Tanapag Middle School Cafeteria, Tanapag
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666
www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 05/17/2018 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments *(not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)*

B. Public Hearings:

1. **Conditional Use Application #2018-0748:** Share View Travel Corporation is proposing to occupy 4 existing 2-storey structures and 1 maintenance building with a total of 18 units to operate a Bed & Breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1625 NEW-9-R2 in Gualo Rai. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

2. **Conditional Use Application #2018-1165:** Art Ridge Village Homes, LLC is proposing to construct a 7-storey structure to operate an apartment with a total of 48 3-bedroom units. This project is classified as "Multifamily or Apartment" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 1925-1, 1925-2, 1925-3-1, & 1925-5-R1 (current Triple J Motors location) in Garapan. This area is zoned as Beach Road.

3. **Conditional Use Application #2018-1170:** New Century Hotel, LLC is proposing to occupy an existing 3-storey structure (former Sebastian Bldg.) to operate a hotel with a total of 48 units. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 002 B 28 in Tanapag. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

C. Communication

D. Old Business:

E. New Business
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

Masubuchi delivers on promise to win fried chicken eating contest at 'Taste'

The top three winners of Taste of the Marianas' fried chicken eating competition pose for a photo. From left, second place winner Kelvin Fitial, first place winner Sachiyo Masubuchi, and third place winner Zach Johnson.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Petite Japanese celebrity Sachiyo Masubuchi dominated the Taste of the Marianas' first fried chicken eating competition, as publicized. The 10 competitors that challenged Masubuchi did not stand a chance against her mighty stomach.

Consuming about 18 pieces of deep-fried J's Restaurant fried chicken in 30 minutes, Masubuchi was awarded the J's Restaurant's Fried Chicken Eating Competition championship. Along with her title came a $300 consolation prize. Had she eaten all 30 pieces, she would have gotten the $1,000 first prize.

Masubuchi did not even break a sweat as she ate her way through three boxes of fried chicken thighs and legs. According to her, her strategy was just to enjoy her food, and take bigger bites, and chew thoroughly.

According to Masubushi's translator, Masubuchi really enjoyed the event and she was really happy that the entire audience enjoyed it as well.

This competition was Masubuchi's first overseas eating competition, but she has participated in numerous eating events within Japan.

Her trip to Saipan was her first; she hopes to return and promised to tell more people about Saipan.

Coming in at second place and eating over two whole boxes of fried chicken was Kelvin Fitial, who was awarded a consolation prize of $200.

Completing the top three was Taste's burrito eating competition champ Zach Johnson, who was awarded a consolation prize of $100.

According to Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, he was pleased with the amount of people who came out to watch the competition and enjoyed all that Taste of the Marianas had to offer. Last Saturday's crowd could have possibly been the biggest crowd seen in Taste of the Marianas' history.

"I was amazed and very pleased with the huge crowd... tonight's crowd was probably the biggest ever seen at the taste of the Marianas," he said.

Concepcion said the idea of the fried chicken eating competition was inspired by some of the competitions he has witnessed overseas.

"…The idea came about through some of the things I've seen overseas…and we wanted to bring a real world-class food challenge to the CNMI so this is the first big one that we had," he said.

Concepcion said the competition was made possible through the hard work of his MVA team and the support of J's Restaurant, which provided over 300 pieces of chicken.

"I really thank my hard-working team for putting this competition together. It was a lot of work…we're very happy with the turnout, we're pleased with our celebrity that we flew in from Japan to take part in it," he said.

Taylor: Learning doesn't end

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Learning does not end in every graduation ceremony.

This was Dr. Jessica B. Taylor's message to the graduating class of the Northern Marianas International School last Saturday.

"Learning does not end today. It does not end when you graduate high school or college. In college, you will be on your own and will be making your own decisions in navigating through the daily activities of your life. You just don't know what life will give you," Taylor said in her speech as keynote speaker of NMIS' 5th Commencement Exercises at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Taylor said graduations could be nostalgic for some and exciting for others but it also a time of celebration. "It is a time for celebration and contemplation on the milestones in your life. It is the time to recognize your achievements and accomplishments. Learning is all about life and life is all about learning," she said.

JON PEREZ

CNMI State Public School System Career and Technical Education Program head Dr. Jessica B. Taylor, left, addresses the graduates and guests in last Saturday's 5th Commencement Exercise of the Northern Marianas International School at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa.

Amy Rayn U. Soliman
Valedictorian

Taylor, the CNMI State Public School System Career and Technical Education Program head, spoke before 47 students in five different grade levels.

Twelve NMIS students are moving up to K4 while 18 will be first graders in the next school year. The fifth and sixth graders had six students who are moving up while another five are entering high school.

Eighth grade valedictorian Amy Rayn U. Soliman, in her address, said that "every student in this room is about to enter a new chapter in their life. Every student is about to follow his or her dreams. Every student's journey to a great future starts now."

"I started at NMIS and I am thankful for being part of the NMIS family. I thank my teachers at NMIS for believing in me, showing me what am I capable of, and bringing out the best in me," she added.

Taylor, Rep. Ed K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), and Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH, joined NMIS president Erick Van Der Maas, board director Ronnie Tan, principal Dr. John B. Joyner, vice principal Jener A. Pineda, and marketing head Eden F. Guilo as dignitaries that graced the occasion. Former representative Tina Sablan attended in behalf of CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP).

Ma. Theresa F. Atienza's K3 class is composed of Mathias C. Aderiano II, Jeremy Kyle R. Aque, Daniel Cai, Jairon Paul J. Gunnacao, Bre'aana Josephine N. Lisua, Jake Hiram M. Maratita Jr. (Valedictorian), Hunnie Tae B. Norita, Christine Lorraine T. Rebuenog, MST Ayesa Siddika, Chanel Marie Siruelo, and Fiona Yu (salutatorian).

Castiel Daniel C. Albert, Jaden Byron A. Apostol, Izaiah Hohn S. Attao, Kylee G. Babauta, Reign Reuel R. Belo, Xavier O. Brien, Jaron Anthony G. Burgos, Alexa Amber B. David, Goldie J. Ferrera, Yumi Viel R. Francia, Aleina Faith A. Iglecias, Lance Ivan P. Laxamana (valedictorian), Loriell C. Pantola, Joshua Duane Pitt, Mir Saba Rahman, Sara Josephine Murielle J. Sobremisana (salutatorian), Jeanne Kate L. Viola, and Yanni Zhang are Tissa Ann A. Salcedo's K5 students.

Euanne Kyra M. Claveria, Samuel D. Cope (salutatorian), Jay Francis Dominic O. Pineda (valedictorian), Konane Walton Pitt, Jazel Star T. Rebuenog, and Simon Daniel Tang are the 5th graders of Levi P. Sobremisana, who also handles the sixth grade class that had Hannah Laine C. Abad, Ivan Yuri J. Ferrera, Betty A. Matson (salutatorian), Zillion Z. Pinote, Luke Raphael Marcel J. Sobremisana, and Juliana T. Vergara (valedictorian). Laurence Raevin C. Abad, Eonzen V. Dela Paz, Alana Bryann Pitt, and Christian Troy J. Rosimo (Ssalutatorian) joined Soliman in the eighth grade class that would start high school in the 2018-2019 school year.

UFO denies ties to Maharlikan

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The United Filipino Organization has denied any ties or association with another organization that is seeking a meeting with Filipino workers in the CNMI.

In a statement over the weekend, UFO, the umbrella organization of Filipino organizations in the CNMI, said that it "is not in any way connected and is not in coordination with the Maharlikan Saipan regarding the recent postings on their FB Page."

The statement was attributed to UFO president Marlon Regaton.

Last Monday, May 14, the Maharlikan organization—a non-profit organization that purports to advocate for Filipinos under the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program—said via Facebook that they would be holding a public meeting to address their plans to aid affected Filipino CW workers. The post claimed that UFO officers and Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI, Eli Arago, would be present at the meeting.

In the UFO statement, Regaton said "the recent issues/campaign against the Philippine Consulate in Guam, the invitation for an OFW meeting on May 24, 2018, at the American Memorial Park, and the form distribution & data gathering posted in the Maharlikan Saipan FB Page is of their own initiative and does not involve in any way the United Filipino Organization, its officers, and the respective member organizations."

Regaton urged everyone to "remain calm and be responsible in their social media postings to avoid unnecessary words that breed confusion. "It is in this time that we need to stand unified, not divided," he added.

According to Regaton, the CW1 issues should be dealt with by proper authorities and to allow government initiatives to take its course. "While waiting for official updates and result, let us all continue to work responsibly in our respective jobs, and let us all pray for a favorable outcome for the betterment of each and everyone and the community we live in," he said.

Prayer to St. Rita

O Holy Patroness of those in need, St. Rita, whose pleadings before thy Divine Lord are almost irresistible, who for thy lavishness in granting favors hast been called the Advocate of the Hopeless and even of the Impossible; St. Rita, so humble, so pure, so mortified, so patient and of such compassionate love for thy Crucified Jesus that thou couldst obtain from Him whatsoever thou askest, on account of which all confidently have recourse to thee, expecting, if not always relief, at least comfort; be propitious to our petition, showing thy power with God on behalf of thy suppliant; be lavish to us, as thou hast been in so many wonderful cases, for the greater glory of God, for the spreading of thine own devotion, and for the consolation of those who trust in thee. We promise, if our petition is granted, to glorify thee by making known thy favor, to bless and sing thy praises forever. Relying then upon thy merits and power before the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we pray thee that *(here mention your request).*

Feast Day: May 22
Patron Saint of: Hopeless cases, victims of abuse and widows.

ST. RITA
Wife, Mother, Widow, Nun

St. Rita was born in Umbria, Italy, about the year 1386, and died at Cascia, in the year 1456. Being the daughter of parents who were advanced in years, she met with much opposition when she let it be known of her intention of becoming a nun. Yielding to her parents desires, she married a cruel man. After converting him from his wicked ways, he was murdered by criminals. Left alone in the world, she applied several times for admissions into the Augustinian convent in Cascia.

Every application was refused, and God Himself cleared away all obstacles and she entered the convent, made her profession and lived the life of a holy and devout religious for forty-two years, "a shining example of every Christian virtue, pure as a lily, simple as a dove, and obedient as an angel." That "God is wonderful in His saints" is easily proven in the life of St. Rita.

On one occasion Rita requested a rose to be brought to her from her garden at Porena in the middle of winter. The rose was found in full bloom. At another time, she asked for a fig, and the same was found.

The reports of these wonders spread far and wide and people flocked to the convent from all parts of the world, only to receive in return for their faith in God through the prayers of Rita many spiritual and earthly favors. Because of the great number of miracles made possible by St. Rita, she is often called "The Saint of the Impossible."

McDonald's offers $5,000 as TOC hole-in-one prize

McDonald's of Saipan is offering a cash award of $5,000 as a hole-in-one prize that may be won at the 23rd Annual Tournament of Champions set for Saturday and Sunday, May 26 and 27, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

"We are extremely happy to support the Governor's Tournament of Champions, which supports projects enhancing tourist areas in the CNMI," said Joe Ayuyu Jr., general manager of McDonald's of Saipan. "We are proud to be part of this year's tournament again with our company's hole-in-one prize contribution."

"McDonald's $5,000 hole-in-one contribution helps us build even more excitement and anticipation for this year's tournament," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "We are grateful for the company's support."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

McDonald's of Saipan is offering $5,000 as a hole-in-one prize for the upcoming 23rd Governor›s Tournament of Champions that will be held this weekend on May 26 and 27, 2018 at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. From left, Dora Lizama, TOC committee member; Marida Pensader, TOC committee member; Joe Ayuyu Jr., general manager of McDonald's of Saipan; Marie Sablan, TOC committee member; Marcia Ayuyu, owner/ operator of McDonald's of Saipan; and Jose Tudela, TOC committee member.

The two-day event is bigger and better than ever with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes. The TOC tournament fee is $200.

The 23rd Governor's Tournament of Champions will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort's east and west courses on May 26 and 27.

Winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Super Senior flights will each receive $500 cash, $400 cash, $300 cash, a Casio watch, and $100 DFS gift certificate for the first to fifth place, respectively. The Ladies Low Gross winners will receive $500, $400, and $300 cash for first to third place, respectively. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will each receive a trophy.

Besides the $5,000 hole-in-one cash prize donated by McDonald's, other hole-in-one prizes include a brand new 2018 Hyundai Kona donated by Triple J Motors, a $5,000 hole-in-one cash prize donated by Pacifica Insurance, one year free golf donated by Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, one roundtrip ticket to anywhere in Asia donated by Asiana Airlines, and one roundtrip ticket to Guangzhou or Shanghai in China donated by Saipan Travel Inc.

Since its inception, TOC has turned over more than $800,000 to the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to improvements like the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the Kensington Hotel Saipan, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, the Governor's TOC also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Pathway, and the beautification of the Port to Park pathway.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for the 2018 TOC, contact Oceana Aldan at 236-2533 or Marida Pensader at 236- 2530. For player information and to download the registration form, visit www.tocSaipan.com. ***(PR)***

Momoland video set on Saipan

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A famous South Korean all-girl K-pop group officially launched their newest music video that was shot in the CNMI.

Momoland just launched the music video for the Japanese version of "Bboom Bboom" last Wednesday, May 16.

Less than a week since the video was released, the video has already garnered over two million views worldwide.

According to Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, the music video has helped expose the CNMI to the world.

"We flew them in and they shot their video…in different places around the island and the exposure we got from that is something that we at MVA really could never afford because the exposure was just tremendous…we're happy to have that type of celebrity power come over to the CNMI and expose our island to an international audience," he said.

The video is trending on YouTube and has been creating buzz for the CNMI in social media outlets.

Concepcion could not be happier with the turnout of the video.

"…The MVA team put the itinerary together with our office in Korea…we're happy with the turnout and we're happy that the Momoland group really enjoyed their stay here. The hospitality that the CNMI showed was something they really appreciated," he said.

Momoland arrived on Saipan in late April and left in early May. The group shot their footage for a week.

According to Concepcion, it was Momoland's first trip to Saipan.

"There is another K-pop group that is coming to the CNMI next month so we're looking forward to it. We're excited about the additional exposure that we are going to get because of it…it's something the MVA put a lot of effort into...it's not easy to pull off this kind of things and to bring high power celebrities to the CNMI so we're happy that they're able to come here and enjoy the islands," he said.

Poetry at the public library

Poet Joe Connolly dropped by the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library last April 12 to teach poetry to students from Northern Marianas International School, in honor of National Library Week (April 8-14).

The students enjoyed Connolly's presentation; his spontaneous "poetry rapping" was especially enjoyed by all. Connolly also talked about sonnets and haiku, and the differences between the two forms of poetry.

At the end of the presentation, Connolly donated a book of haikus to the library, *Jumbo Box* by Michael Dylan. Connolly also donated *Jumbo Box* to the Rota Public Library and the Tinian Public Library.

For the latest news and events, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Joe Connolly, seated center, poses with Northern Marianas International School students after teaching them poetry last April 12 at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in honor of National Library Week.

RB candidacy endorsed by former mayor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Another former mayor has endorsed the candidacy of Ramon Blas "RB" Camacho and joined him in his campaign for Saipan mayor.

Former Saipan mayor Jose Camacho Sablan officially announced his support of Camacho's candidacy during a small get-together consisting of Camacho's supporters last Thursday.

According to Sablan, who was Saipan mayor from 1998 to 2002, he endorsed Camacho's candidacy because of Camacho's community service background and that he is Sablan's former student.

"He is my former student and I have known him and all his past community service. He served the Department of Public Safety for more than 20 years, as well as the Northern Marianas Parole Board…He was a member of the Municipal Council," he said.

Sablan said he has supported Camacho since his first attempt to run for mayor nearly four years ago and will continue to support him.

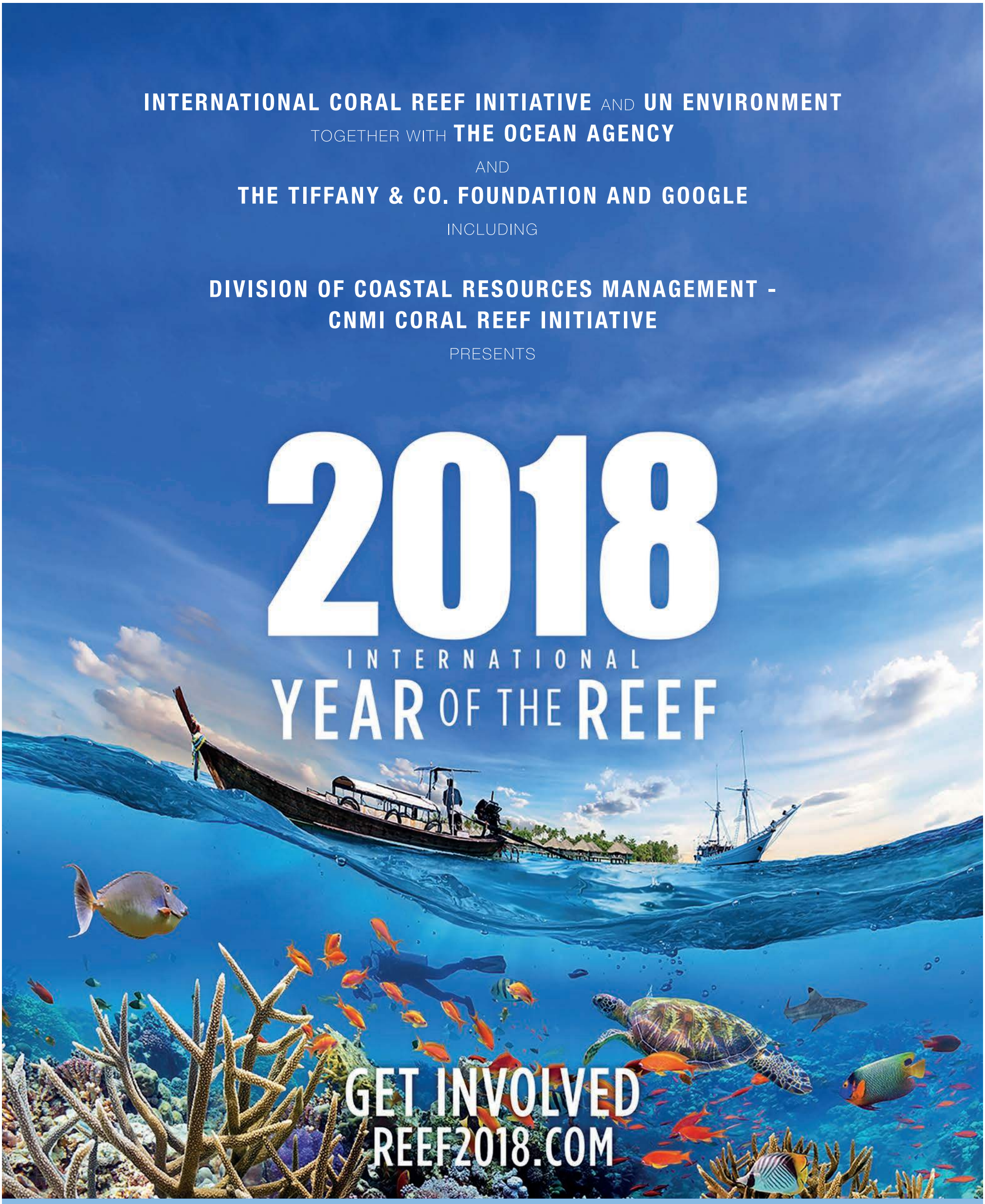
Camacho said he was honored to have another former mayor in his support system and is grateful for the faith they have in him.

Former acting mayor Marian Tudela had also announced back in March that she has decided not to run for mayor this November so she can support Camacho's candidacy.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, Tudela was in the process of running for mayor in this year's election. Tudela had already gotten in touch with former supporters and was already finalizing details forher campaign when she made the decision to step aside for Camacho's candidacy.

Tudela served as acting mayor after the passing of late mayor Donald Flores back in 2014. She ran against David Apatang and nine others in the 2014 election year; she gained the support of about 3,000 to 4,000 voters. Tudela later withdrew to support Apatang.

Camacho is running for mayor as an independent candidate. He is one of two running for the position of mayor in this coming election. Apatang is running again.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HEALTHY REEFS
HEALTHY FISH

Opinion

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Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 100
Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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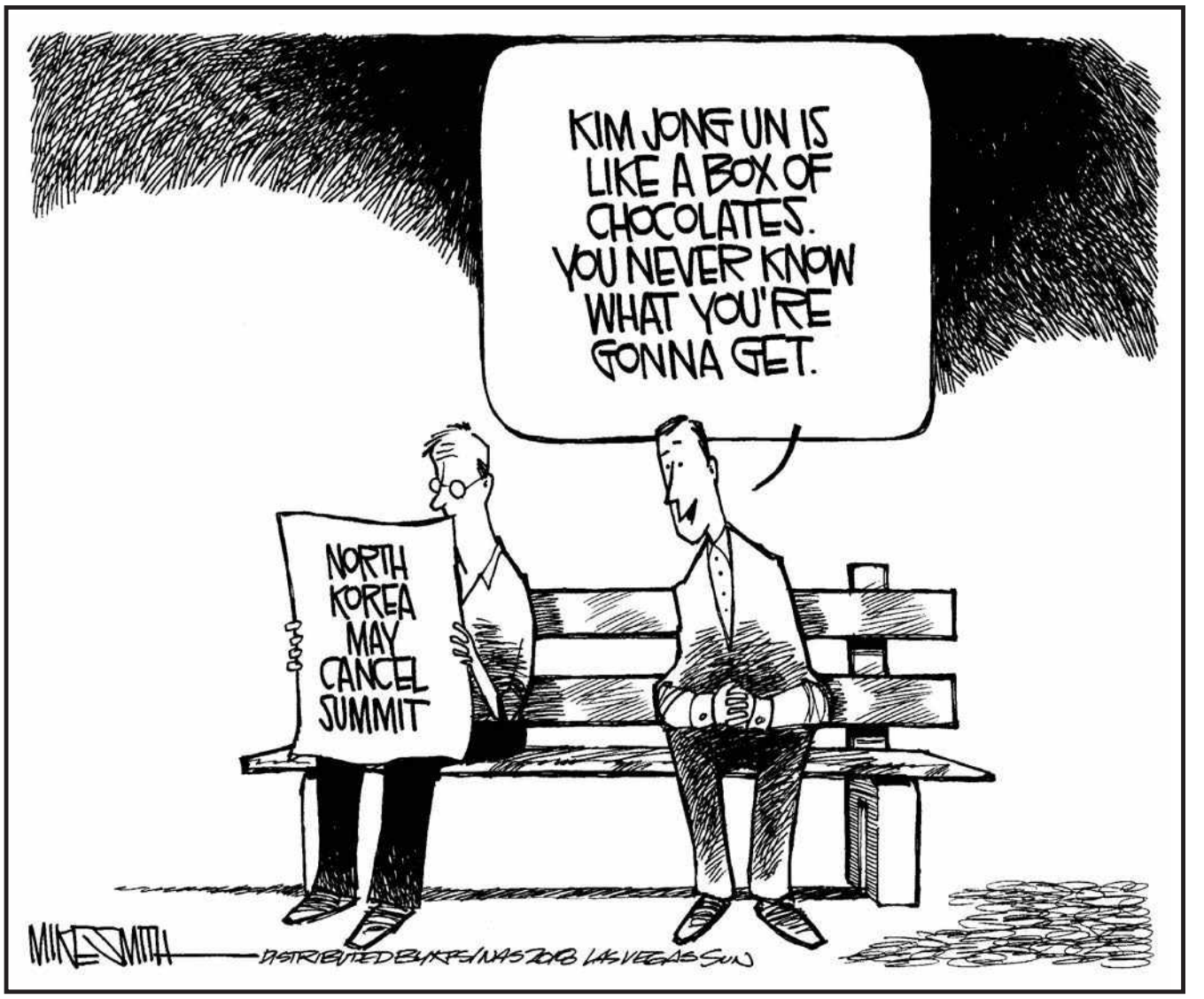
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association


KIM JONG UN IS LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA GET.
NORTH KOREA MAY CANCEL SUMMIT
MIKE SMITH
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You're never too old, busy or rusty to make music

By AMY NATHAN
THE BALTIMORE SUN

Eighty-five percent of adults in the U.S. who do not play a musical instrument wish they had learned to play one, according to a 2009 Gallup Poll; 69 percent would like to play one now. Nearly all believe musical skills can be learned at any age. Yet a 2012 National Endowment for the Arts survey found that just 12 percent of U.S. adults were playing musical instruments.

This gap between aspiration and actuality occurs despite research that shows that making music, as a pro or amateur, is good for the brain and may delay the onset of some of the mental decline of aging. Scans of musicians' brains show that playing an instrument involves greater communication among different regions of the brain than with other tasks, which may lead a musician's brain to create new neural pathways. Those extra pathways may provide musicians with "cognitive reserve" when dementia strikes because their brains "will automatically be more able to cope and find new ways to do tasks," explains Canadian neuroscientist Aline Moussard.

Given this tantalizing research, why haven't more adults followed through on their desire to play an instrument? That 2009 Gallup poll provides an answer: More than half of those polled said they had no time to spare. However, the time needed may not be as much as one might think, according to 274 adults who told me—as part of my research for a new book—how they carve out time to make music.

Ranging in age from 25 to 96, most of them play instruments, about a third sing in choral groups, and a quarter do both. In terms of practice, about 5 percent don't practice music at home at all but still enjoy being part of a community ensemble or choir. About a quarter practice only one or two days a week. Of those who do practice, about 15 percent spend 30 minutes or less, often finding ways to shoehorn practice into spare moments. Those who practice more may make more progress, but as Liz Sogge, a Baltimore statistician who plays violin in the Johns Hopkins Concert Orchestra notes, "There is nothing wrong with never playing at the level of a world-class violinist."

Music lessons are another time-eater, particularly for newcomers or those who haven't done music for years. But there are lower-cost group classes and ensembles that try to speed up the learning process. New Horizons International Music Association has more than 200 such ensembles geared to adults age 50 and over that help newcomers make music as quickly as possible, with instruction built into rehearsals. Only half of the adults I surveyed are taking lessons, with half of them doing so weekly, the rest less often.

See MUSIC on Next Page

"Restore culture as the bedrock of justice'

By KELVIN CEPEDA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: Kelvin Cepeda is a student at Mount Carmel School. The following is the text of his speech at the Attorney General Cup speech competition last May 4.

Ta fan un korason yan un taotao tånu'. This means "Let us be of one heart as one people."

My family raised me learning this important lesson, which they inherited from ancestors who understood that justice was cultivated in a community, by the community, for the community.

But when we became a part of the American political family, instead of holding on to these communal values, we adopted the legal concept of individual rights. We moved away from what was good for the community and became more concerned about what's good for me. But, standing before you today, I know that's not who I am because I know that's not who we are.

So, as much as the Insular Cases have helped the CNMI, I believe they have done more harm than good. That is because the Insular Cases stand on a judicial foundation that is fundamentally at odds with the core values and beliefs of our islands.

To justify my position, I will evaluate the Insular Cases Doctrine in three ways. First, I will discuss the history of the insular cases and how they have affected CNMI history and culture. Second, I will examine to what extent the Insular Cases Doctrine creates different classes of U.S. citizens. Third and last, I will use a critical legal studies framework to determine whether the Insular Cases Doctrine is still relevant and should continue applying to the CNMI.

To begin with, the history of the Insular Cases is rooted in American imperialism. After the U.S. acquired Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines in the Spanish-American War, the Supreme Court, in 1901's *Downes vs. Bidwell,* ruled that constitutional protections did not extend to all territories. This is why our founding fathers ensured that section 501 of the Covenant clearly identified what parts of the U.S. Constitution would and would not apply to the CNMI.

Over time, though, the Insular Cases were used to preserve the cultures of the unincorporated territories. For example, in 1990's *Wabol vs. Villacrusis,* the Ninth Circuit ruled that landownership should be limited to the indigenous people, stating, "The Bill of Rights was not intended to operate as a genocide pact for diverse native cultures." Similarly, 1999's *Rayphand vs. Sablan* helped protect the people of Rota and Tinian from the tyranny of Saipan's majority.

So, on one hand, the Insular Cases were an extension of American imperialism that denied constitutional rights to the territories. On the other hand, the Insular Cases have also been used to protect local land and culture.

This might be seen as a move in the right direction. However, there is a deeper conflict between the communal nature of local culture and the individualistic nature of American jurisprudence. This brings me to my second point.

While protecting culture, the Insular Cases Doctrine has been challenged for creating different classes of citizens. 2015's *Davis vs. Guam* is a clear example of this. Based on laws that protect Chamorro ownership of land in Guam, Arnold Davis, an African-American, was evicted from his home after his wife, a native Chamorro, died without them having kids. And because he was not a native inhabitant of Guam, Davis could not even vote on a plebiscite about landownership. That's when he sued the government of Guam for racial discrimination, and the Ninth Circuit Court ruled that Davis did suffer unfair treatment under the law.

But if you want to talk about unfair treatment under the law and creating different classes of citizens, then tell me this: Even though we have one of the highest rates of military enlistment in the country, why are we not included in federal policies like cabotage laws or the Affordable Care Act, we do not have a vote in Congress, and we cannot even vote for President? That, if anything, is unfair treatment under the law because it treats us as second-class citizens.

But, even if you put all that aside, in *Davis vs. Guam*, the court took a step away from its stance in W*abol vs. Villacrusis.* And within the broader context of jurisprudence, this means that when pitted against individual rights, cultural rights are jeopardized.

Which brings me to my third, final, and most important point:

Is the Insular Cases Doctrine still relevant and should it continue applying to the CNMI? The real issue here is the judicial foundation on which that doctrine stands. According to critical legal studies, despite its façade of impartial objectivity, American jurisprudence has actually upheld the injustices of society's power structures.

See RESTORE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What is your location?

I live in Koblerville, the street behind Hannam Supermarket, and my house is next to the pink plumeria tree. This is an example of a street address on Saipan. Is this legitimately the most efficient way of identifying your location? No. Valuable time and precious resources are squandered explaining where you live and figuring out where businesses are located.

Every place in the world should have an address. However, on our island, we do not have an address. People may believe that it is unnecessary for Saipan to have an address for every section of the island because it is only about 12 miles long and five miles wide. Although it is a small island, having an address will create an opportunity for efficiency, especially during emergencies.

If you were to drive from the northern tip to the southern tip, that's about two hours of driving. One's life can depend on that two hours. Because there is no specific information to describe a location, one may experience the moment of death while the ambulance struggles to find that location. What would only take about 30 minutes can end up taking more than an hour. In case of emergencies, our island should establish the system of naming each place with a specific number for anyone to easily identify. If we develop this system, people who are anticipating for the ambulance to arrive in their area will not have to constantly answer their phones trying to explain the directions of their location.

This problem not only applies to life emergencies but also emergencies of starvation. When the pizza man is delivering the food, how long does it usually take? From my experience, it takes more than two hours for the pizza man to arrive at my location. The system of delivery is made for the convenience of the customer, but is it genuinely convenient for the people of Saipan? I believe that, for most people on Saipan, picking up the pizza themselves will waste less time and increase the customer satisfaction. This issue is preventing people from utilizing an efficient way of receiving their food as well as preventing the company that provides the delivery service from earning tips.

I am indicating an issue that people may not consider a problem, and I am proposing a solution that is applicable to anyone living in a place without an address to identify their location. By developing a system that identifies each building on this island, we will be able to prevent pain from starvation and injuries. Thankfully, our island has a name for most roads. The only thing that our island is lacking are specific addresses of each place. Allowing people to utilize this system will make our island a better place to live. Saipan will become more modernized and more convenient.

Ruth Park
Afetna, San Antonio

A huge disaster

The issue between the Commonwealth Health Center and the Kagman Community Health Center is one huge disaster. What I don't understand is why a problem even sprouted when the people with authority planted the seed of separating both clinics? Why was it thought out to be a "great idea" for the people of CNMI but turned into something not so great? Was it really for the people or the personal problems of the employees?

The governor decided that KCHC and CHCC would no longer be under the same branch, making KCHC an independent healthcare service program. Since KCHC had become independent, it seemed like CHCC started to become more greedy with their equipment. This is what some would call a "personality conflict." KCHC is currently in the position of closure and there aren't any signs of it ending any time soon. Some say that this is the cause of the unexpected changes from CHCC with the passwords and key codes, leaving KCHC with no access to their buildings. This is because they wanted to "secure the equipment and assets of the clinic belonging to CHCC." That's where a personal problem was brought to light. What purpose would securing the equipment serve to KCHC when they are clearly trying to use the correct equipment to assist civilians who are in need of aid?

The idea of keeping things away from another facility that could definitely help those in dire need is just pure selfishness! The lives and wellbeing of the people who go to that clinic for their services were at stake because of someone's bureaucratic pettiness. This not only affects patients, but the workers there as well. They are desperate to go back to work but instead they've now become victims of this issue too.

This issue has not only affected the community, but it also turned into something political. This has come to the point that the Senate had to step in to actually see what could be done when, in reality, they are powerless unless it's about making or changing a law. The authorities thought that KCHC becoming independent would be a simple "transfer of power and resources" but turned into a closure of the clinic. With that said, KCHC had to be relocated to Santa Soledad Parish because of the altered codes and passwords.

It seems like people are just trying to find more reasons to keep KCHC closed instead of actually finding solutions to keep it open. If the administration were really all about solution, then this issue would fit under the category of a true emergency in need of solutions as soon as possible.

Kristine Pude
Koblerville, Saipan

RESTORE

From Page 10

One need only look at a few Supreme Court rulings to see this.

1831: *Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia* sanctioned the Trail of Tears.

1857: *Dred Scott vs. Sandford* upheld slavery.

1896: *Plessy vs. Ferguson* legitimized segregation.

1944: *Korematsu vs. United States* condoned the unjust internment of Japanese-American citizens during World War II.

And 2000: *Rice vs. Cayetano* denied native Hawaiians the right to determine how their own indigenous affairs would be handled.

These are just some of the many Supreme Court rulings that have supported those in power by oppressing those without power.

And while other cases, like *Brown vs. Board of Education,* have upheld justice, they have been too piecemeal to have any lasting impact. Likewise, the piecemeal use of the Insular Cases Doctrine is not enough to protect cultures that have been historically wiped away. In a way, the Insular Cases Doctrine is too insular, and not big enough to address historical injustices like discrimination, oppression, or treating us like second-class citizens. These injustices were systematically and historically constructed, which is why they must be systematically and historically deconstructed.

At its foundation, American jurisprudence is based on individual rights. But when we look at Pacific islanders, our sense of justice is often rooted not in the individual but in the community.

That's the problem.

While discussing the Insular Cases in a recent issue of the *Harvard Law Review,* Professor Rose Cuison Villazor of UC-Davis wrote that "when [there is] tension between the right of an individual against racial discrimination and the right of an indigenous group to [protect] their culture and autonomy," the courts will often favor individual rights over cultural rights.

Now, don't get me wrong. I believe that individual rights are important and that minorities should be protected. But I also believe that minorities would be better served by protecting group cultural rights over individual rights. Whether it be rising incarceration rates, increasing de facto segregation, or growing poverty, all of which hurt minorities the most, individual rights have failed to prevent these modern injustices because they focus on what's happening to the individual, when these injustices are happening to groups of individuals. That is why we need a new kind of justice, one that is focused less on individuals and more on the community, one that goes beyond equality by upholding equity, and one that protects our island cultures. What we need is a restorative form of social justice that returns to our traditional values as indigenous people.

Throughout the Pacific, there are countless examples of restorative social justice, including New Zealand's Maori. In traditional Maori culture, when a crime occurred, the entire tribe gathered to reach a consensus not to punish the individual but to restore what the Maori call "mana," or the prestige of the victim, the offender, and their families.

This kind of restorative justice is something that many cultures throughout the Pacific share, including our own.

And while the Insular Cases Doctrine has attempted to protect our culture, its roots of imperialism and individualism are incapable of upholding the communal values of our cultures.

Besides, maybe we should stop treating culture as a victim that needs to be saved, and start treating it as something that saves us with values that we have not abandoned, whether it be the Pacific Judicial Council restoring traditional mediation, or the Family Court restoring peace in troubled families, or the Drug Court restoring hope for the many lives once thought lost to substance abuse.

Indeed, instead of using the Insular Cases and the justice system to protect culture, perhaps our culture can protect justice itself.

And maybe the best way to restore social justice is to restore culture as the bedrock of justice in our community. And return to what we all learned growing up: Let us be of one heart as one people. *Ta fan un korason yan un taotao tånu'.*

MUSIC

From Page 10

A lack of confidence in their musical abilities may hold back some would-be music-makers, caused by feelings left over from less-than-positive childhood musical experiences. Luckily, it is possible to reboot as an adult by trying a different instrument or type of music, finding beginner-friendly ensembles, joining music support groups, forging more collegial teacher-student relationships and realizing that recitals are optional for adults.

Some adults may also be unaware of the many new opportunities available now. Music schools began expanding their adult programming as baby boomers started nearing retirement age. Adults make up about 25 percent of Peabody Preparatory's enrollment.

"I had no idea there was a way to make beautiful music in a community orchestra the way I'm doing now," says Dr. Morris Schoeneman. After retiring from a medical career, he took refresher lessons on the violin he hadn't played in four decades and found a community orchestra to join near his suburban New York hometown. "I wish I had known about this earlier. I could have been doing this while I was working."

Once adults make the plunge, it's not neurological research that spurs them to rush through dinner to make it to an ensemble rehearsal. Instead, it's the joy they find there, as violinist and Washington, D.C., arts fundraiser Maya Weil notes: "When you are playing with others and it is going well, you feel as if you are soaring. You are suspended in time and hyper alert. You are moving as a unit and there is a feeling of community."

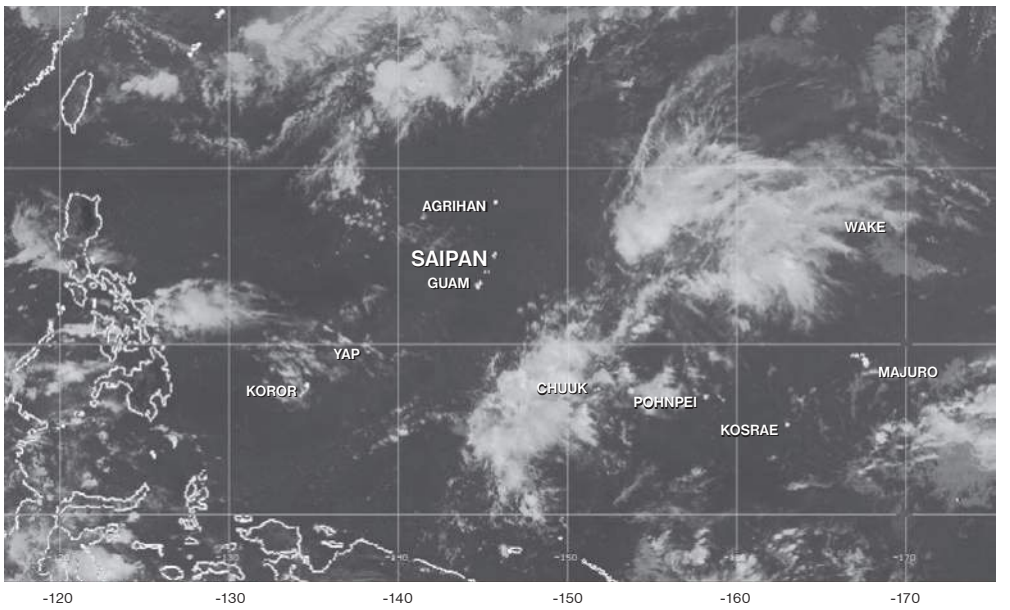
Amy Nathan (www.AmyNathanBooks.com) is the author of Making Time for Making Music: How to Bring Music into Your Busy Life *being published May 22 by Oxford University Press. She grew up in Baltimore and took piano lessons at Peabody Prep as a child.*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:40 PM, MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Little change made to the forecast. A weak surface trough will pass across the Marianas today. Northeast winds this morning will shift to southeast by late this afternoon as the trough passes. Only a few showers and light winds are expected with the trough. The light winds and daytime heating will combine to produce a slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms over Guam. Deep layer moisture will decrease during the coming week and only isolated showers are anticipated tonight through Sunday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	87° / 81°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	57° / 52°
Beijing	Sunny	88° / 57°
Hong Kong	Sunny	91° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84° / 73°
London	Showers	73° / 52°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	68° / 57°
Manila	Thunderstorm	97° / 81°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 52°
Miami	Cloudy	81° / 77°
New York	Showers	68° / 59°
Osaka	Rain	72° / 63°
Paris	Thunderstorm	75° / 55°
Busan	Rain	73° / 57°
Rome	Thunderstorm	73° / 61°
Salem	Thunderstorm	80° / 67°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	57° / 52°
Seoul	Sunny	72° / 52°
Tokyo	Rain	73° / 64°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	80° / 68°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:09 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.94
8:05 AM	LOW TIDE	1.09
12:28 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.54
7:46 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.01

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:40 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:20 AM	12:15 PM
Wednesday	-	1:08 AM	1:12 PM
Thursday	-	1:53 AM	2:06 PM
Friday	-	2:36 AM	2:59 PM
Saturday	-	3:17 AM	3:51 PM

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 8, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Economic talks between US-China result in truce in trade war

AP
Visitors attend the 21st China Beijing International High-tech Expo which showcase the latest Chinese technologies in Beijing, China, Thursday, May 17, 2018.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States and China are pulling back from the brink of a trade war after the world's two biggest economies reported progress in talks aimed at bringing down America's massive trade deficit with Beijing.

"We are putting the trade war on hold," Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Sunday.

After high-level talks Thursday and Friday in Washington, Beijing agreed in a joint statement with the U.S. to "substantially reduce" America's trade deficit with China, but did not commit to cut the gap by any specific amount. The Trump administration had sought to slash the deficit by $200 billion.

Still, Mnuchin said the two countries had made "meaningful progress" and that the administration has agreed to put on hold proposed tariffs on up to $150 billion in Chinese products. China had promised to retaliate in a move that threatened a tit for tat trade war.

He said they expect to see a big increase — 35 percent to 45 percent this year alone — in U.S. farm sales to China. Mnuchin also forecast a doubling in sales of U.S. energy products to the Chinese market, increasing energy exports by $50 billion to $60 billion in the next three years to five years.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who has been part of the U.S. negotiating team, will go to China soon to follow up on last week's discussions, Mnuchin said.

In Saturday's statement, Beijing committed to "significantly increase" its purchases of American goods and services, saying the increase would "meet the growing consumption needs of the Chinese people and the need for high-quality economic development."

Last year, the U.S. had a record $376 billion deficit with China in the trade of goods; that was the largest by far with any nation.

Trade analysts were not surprised that China refused to agree to a numerical target for cutting the trade gap, but they said the talks probably were more successful in easing trade tensions.

"The Trump administration seems eager to engineer at minimum a temporary peace with China to ensure a smooth run-up to the Kim-Trump summit in June," Cornell University economist Eswar Prasad said, referring to the June 12 meeting scheduled between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

If there is success in the U.S.-China discussions, analysts suggest it likely would involve the countries' presidents this fall before the November elections.

"Part of the good news for markets: As long as both sides continue to be 'constructively' engaged, imposition of additional tariffs by either side is very unlikely," analysts at investment management firm Evercore ISI said in a research note. "There is no reason for either side — particularly the U.S. — to destroy the process that both sides are building, which is what imposing tariffs would do."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., praised the administration's efforts with China.

"It's smart to engage China on trade abuses, and it would also be smart to get them more involved in trying to help us with North Korea," Graham said.

Trump campaigned in 2016 on a pledge to get tough on China and other U.S. trading partners. He views the U.S. trade deficit with China as evidence that Beijing is engaged in abusive trading practices and has outmaneuvered previous U.S. administrations.

Sharing a coworker's grief over terminally ill pet

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

Q: I work at a pet-friendly company where people are allowed to bring their dogs. My coworker "Mandy" has a golden retriever, and I have grown very fond of him. Whenever I have a bad day, his friendly spirit immediately cheers me up.

Mandy recently learned that her wonderful dog is terminally ill and doesn't have long to live. I feel so sad for both of them, but I'm not sure how to communicate with Mandy during this difficult time. Do you have any suggestions?

A: Kudos to you for being sensitive to your coworker's grief. Because pets are like family for many people, the death of a dog can be emotionally wrenching. For that reason, you should handle this illness much as you would that of a close relative.

From time to time, ask Mandy how her dog is doing and how she is feeling. Her response should help you determine whether she would like to continue the conversation. While some people find it helpful to talk, others dislike discussing painful topics.

If Mandy gives a short reply which seems to discourage further discussion, don't push for additional information. But if you sense that she would like to share more, follow up with appropriate questions or comments.

Once her pet passes away, express sorrow for her loss, reminisce about what a great dog he was, and let her know how his presence helped you. Then, as before, just follow her lead. If she seems to feel like talking, perhaps you could invite her to lunch.

However, you should avoid suggesting that her problem can be solved by getting another dog. Although there might be some truth to this, many pet owners resent the implication that their companions are interchangeable.

Q: For the past six months, we have been struggling to cope with an incompetent district manager. "Jake" makes decisions and then changes his mind without telling anyone. When we explain that we were just following his original orders, he gets mad and refuses to believe us. If we provide documentation, he becomes very defensive.

Ever since Jake was put in charge, our turnover rate has gone through the roof. The human resources manager recently left because Jake overruled every policy that she tried to implement. She was the only one who helped us manage this insanity.

Although this is a large multi-state company, our office is fairly small, so losing people is tough. The owners have to be aware of the increased turnover, but they've done nothing to investigate. What can we do?

A: You might be making an erroneous assumption. In a large company with multiple locations, the owners may have no clue about what's happening in one small office. But if Jake is as bad as you say, they would probably like to know. So your group might want to contact them and explain why so many folks are jumping ship.

Given the HR manager's history of helpfulness, perhaps she would be willing to guide you through this process and share her own impressions. However, if this plan seems unrealistic or the owners just don't care, you might want to follow your former colleagues out the door.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Average price of US gas jumps 10 cents, to $3 a gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of regular-grade gasoline in the U.S. jumped 10 cents a gallon over the past two weeks to $3.00. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey said Sunday that the price has spiked 41 cents over the past three months. Lundberg says the increase is largely driven by higher crude oil costs and the phasing-in of summer-grade gasoline, which is used to prevent smog. The highest average price in the contiguous 48 states was $3.79 in the San Francisco Bay Area. The lowest was $2.54 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The average price for diesel fuel rose 9 cents, to $3.23.

Company says gas leak caused explosion at Houston-area plant

HOUSTON (AP)—Officials say a gas leak caused an explosion and brief flash fire at a chemical plant near Houston, resulting in non-life threatening injuries to nearly two dozen workers. Kuraray America says in a news release that ethylene escaping from a safety valve caught fire Saturday at the company's EVAL plan in Pasadena where 266 workers were on site. Ethylene is a gas that is not harmful to humans and is used in the production of plastic. La Porte Emergency Management Lt. John Krueger says the injuries include burns similar to a severe sunburn and back and leg injuries. The plant's address is Pasadena, but is located in an unincorporated area between the Houston suburbs. Plant manager Eric Bass said the company is working with investigators.

Group launches bid to repeal Seattle's new tax on companies

SEATTLE (AP)—A coalition of businesses in Seattle has started a campaign to repeal the city's new tax on large businesses to help fund homeless services and affordable housing. Multiple news outlets reported that the group calling itself No Tax on Jobs began collecting signatures Friday to qualify for a citizen referendum. Their goal is to get about 18,000 signatures by mid-June in order to get the question on the November ballot. It otherwise takes effect on Jan. 1, 2019. The group is chaired by James Maiocco, chief business development officer with Redmond-based tech firm Pushpay, according to a filing Friday with the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission. On Monday, the Seattle City Council unanimously approved a yearly tax of $275 per full-time employee to be levied on businesses with at least $20 million annually in Seattle revenue, beginning next year.

Nation

Texas mom marched after Parkland, then her town was next

SANTA FE, Texas (AP)—She stood at her bedroom door for five minutes Saturday morning trying to work up the courage to turn the knob and re-enter a world she worried would never feel safe or whole again. Then she crept down the hallway, toward the front porch where she stood the morning before to watch police cars screaming down the highway toward the high school, and imagined she'd never forget the screech of their sirens.

Christina Delgado had been dreading the next school shooting for months, since a gunman stormed a high school 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) away in Parkland, Florida, killing 17 people. Her 13-year-old daughter watched it unfold on television and said she was afraid to go to school. So Delgado had taken an unpopular stand in her home state of Texas, with some of the most permissible gun laws in America: She attended town hall meetings, quizzed candidates running for office about their stance on guns and drove to Houston to join the March for Our Lives rally — as thousands across the country, galvanized by the outspoken students who survived the Parkland shooting, took to the streets to call for gun laws that might stop the all-too-common occurrence of children being massacred in their classrooms.

Then Delgado woke up Friday morning to find that the very thing she had marched against had arrived on her own doorstep. A teenage boy opened fire with his father's shotgun and handgun at Santa Fe High School a few miles down the road, in an attack that left 10 dead, eight of them children, in the first mass school shooting amid the Parkland students' movement.

AP

Christina Delgado, right, talks about the school shooting as her daughter, London, listens Sunday, May 20, 2018, in Santa Fe, Texas.

"I want people to know how real and how terrifying and how painful and how possible this is," Delgado said. "It's not supposed to happen here. We're Texas, we're responsible gun owners. We care about our kids, we care about our communities, we care about our families. And we failed them. It's like a slap in the face."

Delgado, a hairdresser and mother of two, remembers the day like a dream: a call from her best friend who couldn't find her children, running down the highway in her pajamas, passing screaming parents and teenagers covered in blood. The chaotic day devastated this small, conservative city, where everyone knows their neighbors and just about everyone owns a gun. And it thrust Santa Fe and its population of 13,000 people into the center of the intractable battle over firearms, the nuance of which Delgado worries will be lost again in the country's caustic, us-versus-them political climate.

On Sunday morning, even as residents sought refuge in their churches, the simmering debate was never far away.

At Arcadia First Baptist Church, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a staunch advocate for gun rights, hugged grieving parishioners as they arrived, surrounded by dozens of television cameras, photographers and reporters. Monica Bracknell, an 18-year-old senior who survived the shooting, stopped to tell the governor that the attack should not be used as a political push for gun control.

"People are making this into a political issue," she said. "This is not a political issue. This is not a gun law issue."

Texas has been among the states most strident in its support for gun rights, even as mass shootings have caused other states to slowly start tightening laws. But after a gunman killed 20 elementary school children and six adults at a school in Connecticut in 2012, Texas lawmakers expanded gun rights in the state. When a man killed more than two dozen people at a church last year in Sutherland Springs, Texas, the state's attorney general, Ken Paxton, said there ought to be more guns in churches.

Lava from Kilauea volcano enters ocean, creates toxic cloud

PAHOA, Hawaii (AP)—White plumes of acid and extremely fine shards of glass billowed into the sky over Hawaii as molten rock from Kilauea volcano poured into the ocean, creating yet another hazard from an eruption that began more than two weeks ago.

Authorities on Sunday warned the public to stay away from the toxic steam cloud, which is formed by a chemical reaction when lava touches seawater.

Further upslope, lava continued to gush out of large cracks in the ground that formed in residential neighborhoods in a rural part of the Big Island. The molten rock formed rivers that bisected forests and farms as it meandered toward the coast.

The rate of sulfur dioxide gas shooting from the ground fissures tripled, leading Hawaii County to repeat warnings about air quality. At the volcano's summit, two explosive eruptions unleashed clouds of ash. Winds carried much of the ash toward the southwest.

Joseph Kekedi, an orchid grower who lives and works about 3 miles (5 kilometers) from where lava dropped into the sea, said luckily the flow didn't head toward him. At one point, it was about a mile upslope from his property in the coastal community of Kapoho.

He said residents can't do much but stay informed and be ready to get out of the way.

"Here's nature reminding us again who's boss," Kekedi said.

Scientists said the steam clouds at the spots where lava entered the ocean were laced with hydrochloric acid and fine glass particles that can irrigate the skin and eyes and cause breathing problems.

The lava haze, or "laze," from the plume spread as far as 15 miles (24 kilometers) west of where the lava met the ocean on the Big Island's southern coast. It was just offshore and running parallel to the coast, said U.S. Geological Survey scientist Wendy Stovall.

Scientists said the acid in the plume was about as corrosive as diluted battery acid. The glass was in the form of fine glass shards. Getting hit by it might feel like being sprinkled with glitter.

"If you're feeling stinging on your skin, go inside," Stovall said. Authorities warned that the plume could shift direction if the winds changed.

The Coast Guard said it was enforcing a safety zone extending 984 feet (300 meters) around the ocean entry point.

Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. John Bannon said in a statement Sunday that "getting too close to the lava can result in serious injury or death."

Gov. David Ige told reporters in Hilo that the state was monitoring the volcano and keeping people safe.

"Like typical eruptions and lava flows, it's really allowing Madam Pele to run its course," he said, referring to the Hawaiian goddess of volcanoes and fire.

Ige said he was thankful that the current flows weren't risking homes and hoped it would stay that way.

On Saturday, the eruption claimed its first major injury. David Mace, a spokesman for the Federal Emergency Management Agency who was helping Hawaii County respond to the disaster, said a man was struck in the leg by a flying piece of lava. He didn't have further details, including what condition the man was in.

Man faces murder charges in restaurant crash that killed kin

BESSEMER CITY, N.C. (AP)—A man intentionally rammed a vehicle into a steak and seafood outlet in North Carolina on Sunday, killing his daughter and daughter-in-law who had been seated inside the restaurant with other family members, police said.

The vehicle's driver, Roger Self, was immediately arrested and the preliminary evidence indicates he purposely drove all the way into the Surf and Turf Lodge about noon, authorities said. Jail records show he's been charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of his daughter, Katelyn Self, a deputy with the Gaston County Sheriff's Office, and his daughter-in-law, Amanda Self, a nurse. The Gaston Gazette reports Amanda Self was the wife of Roger Self's son, Gaston County Police Officer Josh Self, who also was seriously injured, along with Roger Self's wife, Diane, and the 13-year-old daughter of Josh and Amanda Self. They are all expected to survive their injuries.

Police said they were opening a homicide investigation but they gave no initial indication what circumstances led up to the crash that sent stunned patrons scrambling at the eatery about 30 miles (50 kilometers) west of Charlotte.

Caleb Martin, a 14-year-old who identified himself as a busboy at the restaurant, said he saw the crash and was stunned by the suddenness of it all.

"I walked over to my station and I heard a loud boom," Caleb told WSOC-TV. He says he did not know what to do at first, but quickly joined arriving first responders in helping those injured by clearing debris and tables away. "The one guy I could help in back, he was pretty hurt."

Footage from the restaurant scene showed emergency responders treating people on the ground outside as shocked patrons milled about Sunday afternoon.

"He drove his car into the building, killing people, so that's why we took him into custody immediately," Bessemer City Police Chief Thomas Ellis Jr. said.

Katelyn Self, 26, was a four-year veteran of the Gaston County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Alan Cloninger told The Charlotte Observer. She had worked as a corporal in the jail and was off duty when she was fatally injured.

Asia

Manila takes non-confrontational stand vs China in sea feud

AP
Protesters display placards during a rally at the Chinese Consulate to protest China's deployment of missiles on the Philippine-claimed reefs in South China Sea Friday, May 18, 2018 in the financial district of Makati city east of Manila, Philippines.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government is taking "appropriate diplomatic action" to protect its claims in the South China Sea but did not elaborate or name China in a non-confrontational policy to avoid problems.

China reportedly landed long-range bombers on one of its occupied islands for the first time in its latest military action in the disputed seas, setting off international concern. A Pentagon spokesman said late last week China's "militarization" of disputed areas destabilizes the region.

The Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs reiterated Monday the government is committed to protecting "every single inch" of its territory and areas where it has sovereign rights. But it added that its responses to certain developments might not be publicized.

"While appropriate language, whether expressions of condemnation or concern, over certain developments are clearly conveyed through diplomatic channels, it is not our policy to publicize every action taken by the Philippine government whenever there are reported developments taking place," the department said.

"Moving forward, we are taking a different approach to avoid any drawbacks and challenges," the statement added.

After rising to power nearly two years ago, President Rodrigo Duterte took steps to thaw the Philippines' frosty ties with China over the sea disputes in an effort to secure Chinese infrastructure funds and investment while often criticizing security policies of the United States, his country's treaty ally.

Duterte refused to immediately demand Chinese compliance to a landmark 2016 arbitration ruling that invalidated China's claims to virtually all of the South China Sea on historical grounds and upheld the Philippines' sovereign rights to vast stretches of waters.

The Duterte administration has also muted criticisms of China's increasingly assertive actions in the disputed territories, including the installation of missile defense systems on seven islands it built on disputed reefs close to other areas occupied by rival claimants, including the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan and Malaysia.

The long-range bombers involved in the recently reported exercise would have all of Southeast Asia in range. They reportedly landed on Woody Island, China's largest base in the Paracel Islands that are also claimed by Vietnam and Taiwan.

The Department of Foreign Affairs said the Philippines had gained much under Duterte and intended to achieve more.

Critics and nationalists have accused Duterte of squandering the Philippines' arbitration victory and helping embolden China.

Renato Reyes of the leftwing group Bayan called the Duterte administration's approach to the territorial disputes "defeatist.

"Asserting our sovereign rights does not mean we intend to go to war with China and end up losing," Reyes said. "It simply means we are telling China and the entire world that we have sovereign rights in those waters under international law. It means we have not surrendered those rights."

Malaysia ex-leader seeks police protection amid graft probe

PEKAN, Malaysia (AP)—Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak, who is under investigation for a massive corruption scandal, has sought police protection over concern about his family's safety, Malaysia's national news agency reported Sunday.

Najib's long-ruling coalition suffered a shocking defeat in May 9 elections amid anger over at least $4.5 billion that investigators say was looted and laundered by Najib's associates from a state investment fund he set up. The new government has reopened an investigation into the case, with police raiding Najib's properties and seizing more than 300 expensive handbags as well as suitcases filled with cash, jewelry and other valuables.

Najib and his wife have been barred from leaving the country.

"Najib has lodged a police report asking for protection for himself and his family as they fear for their safety after the 14th general election," a Najib spokesman told Bernama news agency. He didn't give details.

Najib's main aide said he couldn't immediately comment when contacted.

The Malay Mail newspaper said Najib sought protection due to "clear threats" made, but gave no details.

Police have been stationed outside Najib's house in Kuala Lumpur since he failed to win a third term in office.

On Sunday, he was escorted by police as he traveled back to his hometown of Pekan in central Pahang state.

Najib, 64, has been summoned by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission for questioning on Tuesday. A government official said he could possibly be detained after that.

Abdul Kadir Jasin, a spokesman for a new government advisory council, said an investigation had already been conducted in the past but was suppressed by Najib while he was in power.

"The chances are that he will give his statement and then be arrested," Abdul Kadir wrote on his blog.

At a party event Sunday in Pekan, Najib reiterated that he "didn't steal money from the people" and that the loss of his coalition—which had led Malaysia since independence from Britain in 1957—was due to a vicious personal attack against him based on slander and lies.

"The people of Pekan know me. I am not a thief. I am not a rogue," he said. "To topple the party, they had to target the president. They would do anything as long as my brand was destroyed."

Thailand wearies of junta rule, election promise still vague

BANGKOK (AP)—Four years after seizing power, Thailand's junta has a singular success it never hoped for: uniting a politically divided nation in growing dissatisfaction with the thin-skinned rule of the generals.

After rifle-toting soldiers overthrew Thailand's elected government in a bloodless coup in May 2014, the new military leaders, like a succession of Thai coup makers before them, pledged reform and reconciliation and promised they wouldn't stay long.

But after repeatedly delaying elections, frustration with the junta and its leader, former army chief Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, is visibly growing. And far from stepping back, they appear to be planning to maintain a vice-like grip on the country by turning political parties into their proxies if elections are held. The latest vague date for an election is February next year.

From humble street-food sellers ordered off Bangkok's pavements to wealthier echelons of society, the junta's promise to "return happiness" to Thailand now rings hollow.

"They came in to pledge for reform, reconciliation and corruption eradication, but in fact, on all three fronts, they've failed," said Thitinan Pongsudhirak, a political scientist at Chulalongkorn University. "If you look around Thailand now, no one, no segment, no faction, no key movement is really behind the coup and the military government anymore."

One of world's top tourist destinations and a long-standing U.S. ally, Thailand has suffered more than a decade of upheaval, including two coups, as its conservative establishment struggled to smother a grassroots political revolution fostered by the electoral success of billionaire businessman Thaksin Shinawatra.

His leadership was marred by corruption and human rights abuses and he now lives abroad in exile, but the political earthquake he unleashed with policies aimed at improving the lot of the country's poor rural majority, and diminishing Bangkok as the country's overweening center of political gravity, continues to reverberate.

Thaksin was ousted in a 2006 coup but his proxies swept to power in successive elections including a party led by his younger sister, Yingluck Shinawatra. The 2014 coup that ousted her government followed months of street protests in Bangkok against politicians Thaksin-deploring urbanites saw as inept and corrupt. It was Thailand's 12th military takeover since its absolute monarchy was abolished by a 1932 coup.

Many Thais are grateful that Prayuth guided the country through the national trauma of the death of long-reigning King Bhumibhol in 2016 and the year of mourning that followed. They believe the discipline of a military ruler ensured stability at a crucial time.

Nor do they want to reprise the violent street politics of the last decade that at times turned Bangkok into a war zone.

Equally, though, there's an increasing clamor of voices asserting it's time for the junta to go.

Corruption scandals have eaten away at its claim to legitimacy and frequent arrests of government critics have caused anger, emboldening further open challenges to the regime.

"If you believe in the basic principle of democracy and human rights you will never be able to agree with having a junta to rule the country, so it's as simple as that," says Nuttaa Mahattana, a protest leader.

Prayuth denies he ever wanted to be prime minister and scoffs at claims he's maneuvering to stay in power after elections.

He revels in the limelight and the quick-tempered soldier is also swift to counter-attack, often throwing out personal insults or threats to silence opponents.

"You cannot say that we haven't done anything, otherwise, why have we been here for the past four years?" he said at recent news briefing.

A Thaksin-backed political party that earlier this month criticized the junta's performance was rapidly put under police investigation.

Titipol Phakdeewanich, dean of the political science faculty at Ubon Ratchathani University, said Prayuth is already campaigning. He is courting regional power brokers and traveling frequently to the provinces for triumphal speeches to locals while political parties are barred from doing the same.

World

Maduro declared winner in disputed Venezuela election

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuelan officials declared socialist leader Nicolas Maduro the easy winner of Sunday's presidential election, while his leading challenger questioned the legitimacy of a vote marred by irregularities and called for a new ballot to prevent a brewing social crisis from exploding.

The National Election Council announced that with almost 93 percent of polling stations reporting, Maduro won nearly 68 percent of the votes, beating nearest challenger Henri Falcon by more than 40 points.

The disputed victory is likely to heighten international pressure on Maduro, as voter turnout was the lowest in a presidential race since the start of Venezuela's leftist revolution two decades ago. Even as voting was taking place Sunday, a senior State Department official warned that the U.S. might press ahead on threats of imposing crippling oil sanctions on the nation that sits atop the world's largest crude reserves.

AP

Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, holding a copy of the country's constitution, addresses supporters at the presidential palace in Caracas, Venezuela, after electoral officials declared he was re-elected on Sunday, May 20, 2018.

The election "without any doubt lacks legitimacy and we categorically refuse to recognize this process," Falcon told supporters before the results were announced.

Falcon was joined in his call for a new election by third-place finisher Javier Bertucci, who got around 11 percent of the vote. Bertucci, a TV evangelist, stopped short of challenging the results, saying what he called a mistaken opposition boycott that led to the lowest voter turnout in two decades of socialist rule also boosted Maduro.

But he said that in the event of a new vote, Maduro should do the courageous thing and desist from running. If Maduro presses forward, he said, Venezuela would explode from a social crisis marked by widespread food shortages and hyperinflation before his new six-year term starts next January.

Maduro immediately called for dialogue with his presidential opponents. But he showed no sign of replaying Sunday's vote.

"The electoral processes have ended for now," he said, saying that he wanted to spend the next two years before scheduled congressional elections to focus on repairing the economy.

He also slammed Falcon, who like him was an acolyte of the late President Hugo Chavez. Maduro said he had never seen a candidate dispute results even before they were announced.

"Sooner or later, they all break in the face of threats from the imperialists," he said, appeling to the U.S. to also reconsider its belligerent stance toward his government.

Both of Maduro's opponents accused electoral authorities of turning a blind eye to a slew of blatant violations, including the establishment of red tents just steps away from voting centers where ruling party activists scanned on cellphones government-issued "Fatherland Cards." Many voters said they hoped it would bring them a cash bonus or even a free apartment.

Under Venezuela's electoral law, any political activity must take place at least 650 feet (200 meters) from voting centers. National Electoral Council president Tibisay Lucena acknowledged a handful of complaints, but insisted they were minor compared to past elections.

Cubans mourn plane crash dead, officials ID 20 bodies

HAVANA (AP)—At morgues and in church services, tearful Cubans on Sunday mourned loved ones who died in the country's worst air disaster in three decades.

Island authorities said they have identified 20 bodies and recovered all human remains from the field next to Havana's international airport where a passenger jet crashed Friday, killing 110 people.

Maidi Charchabal wept and held a photograph of her son Daniel Terrero, who would have turned 22 years old Sunday, as she waited at Havana's Institute of Legal Medicine for experts to complete their identification of his body.

"We are here today so that, even if only in consolation, they hand over his body to us, so we can ... be able to be with him on his birthday," Charchabal told The Associated Press.

"We are very pained by this loss," she added.

Cuba's chief forensics official, Jorge Gonzalez, said all families had been contacted and asked to provide blood and objects such as photographs and toothbrushes that could be used in identifications.

He said the number of bodies recovered by authorities matches the tally of those on board, accounting for three Cuban women were the only survivors and who were hospitalized in serious condition, so it is believed none are unaccounted for.

Gonzalez said many of the bodies were affected by the trauma of the crash, the flames and the heat, and the identification process could take at least 30 days.

"We are in a hurry, but we will work with all the carefulness that this requires," said Gonzalez, a specialist who led the search and identification of the remains of revolutionary guerrilla Ernesto "Che" Guevara in Bolivia.

The Boeing 737 belonging to a Mexican charter company and hired by Cuban state-run airline Cubana de Aviacion veered sharply shortly after takeoff from Havana on Friday afternoon and crashed in a fireball in a cassava field. Its destination had been the eastern Cuban city of Holguin.

It was carrying 107 passengers—mostly Cubans and also five foreigners—and a six-person flight crew from Mexico. Some family members of the Mexican victims arrived in Cuba late Saturday to assist in the identifications.

Also Sunday, evangelical churches held prayer services for 20 pastors—10 married couples—from the Nazarene Church of Holguin who died while returning home after several days of a spiritual retreat in the capital.

"They were consecrated pastors who during the entire retreat expressed their pleasure," said Rev. Pedro Urgelles, their host in Havana. "We believe in eternal life and they have gotten there before us."

At the Evangelical League Temple, pastor Fernando Rodriguez projected photos of some of the deceased clerics onto a wall for parishioners and led a prayer.

"Although we may not comprehend why this happened, the believer knows that the Lord is sovereign," he said to responses of "hallelujah" from the flock.

Cuba has declared two days of national mourning over the disaster, whose cause is under investigation.

WORLD BRIEFS

Congo to begin vaccinating against Ebola on Monday

KINSHASA, Congo (AP)—Congo will begin administering an experimental Ebola vaccine Monday in Mbandaka, the northwestern city of 1.2 million where the deadly disease has infected some residents, Congo's health minister announced. "The vaccination campaign begins tomorrow, Monday, in Mbandaka, capital of the province. It will target, first, the health staff, the contacts of the sick and the contacts of the contacts," Minister of Health Oly Ilunga told The Associated Press Sunday. The death toll of the current Ebola outbreak has risen to 26. Initially, the campaign will target 600 people, mainly medical staff, contacts of suspected cases, and those who have been in contact with the contacts, said Ilunga. Officials are working urgently to prevent the disease from spreading beyond Mbandaka, which lies on the Congo River, a busy traffic corridor, and is an hour's flight from the capital. More than 4,000 doses are already in Congo and more are on the way, according to officials. The vaccine is still in the test stages, but it was effective in the West Africa outbreak a few years ago.

Police kill 4 gunmen who raided Orthodox church in Chechnya

MOSCOW (AP)—Four gunmen attacked a Russian Orthodox church in the mostly Muslim Russian province of Chechnya, but were killed by security forces in a clash Saturday that also left two policemen and a churchgoer dead. The attack underscored security challenges in Russia as it prepares to host soccer's World Cup next month. The provincial capital of Chechnya, Grozny, is not scheduled to host any World Cup games, but the Egyptian team planned to use it as a training base. Chechnya's Moscow-backed regional leader, Ramzan Kadyrov, said the gunmen attacked the Archangel Michael Church in the center of Grozny. He said on his blog that he personally oversaw a special operation in which all the assailants were killed. The Investigative Committee, Russia's top investigative agency, said two police officers were killed and another two were wounded in the clash. One churchgoer also died dead and another one was wounded. The agency said the assailants were armed with guns and knives. Kadyrov said the gunmen also carried axes and Molotov cocktails. He praised police officers who guarded the church for their courage and said the region would help the families of the officers who died.

Iran says EU political support not enough, urges investment

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's state TV is reporting that the country's foreign minister has urged the European Union to go beyond political support for its landmark nuclear deal and increase investment in Iran. The report quotes Mohammad Javad Zarif, who met with EU Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Union Miguel Arias Canete in Tehran on Sunday, as saying that "European political support is not enough, and the union should take practical steps toward economic cooperation with Iran and increase investment." The EU's foreign policy chief and the foreign ministers of Britain, France and Germany had committed Tuesday to keep working together to save the 2015 nuclear deal, despite U.S. President Donald Trump pulling out of the pact and promising to impose tough economic sanctions on Iran.

Focus

AP

This May 7, 2018, satellite images provided by DigitalGlobe shows the nuclear test site in Punggye-ri, North Korea. North Korea on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, canceled a high-level meeting with South Korea and threatened to scrap a historic summit next month between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un over military exercises between Seoul and Washington that Pyongyang has long claimed are invasion rehearsals. The North's statement Wednesday, May 16, comes amid a slew of surprising moves in recent weeks. On Tuesday, May 15, South Korea's military said North Korea was moving ahead with plans to close its nuclear test site next week, an assessment backed by U.S. researchers who say satellite images show the North has begun dismantling facilities at the site.

In North Korea nuke site closing, SPECTACLE TRUMPS SUBSTANCE

By ERIC TALMADGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP)—Foreign journalists will be allowed to journey deep into the mountains of North Korea this week to observe the closing of the country's Punggye-ri nuclear test site in a much-touted display of goodwill before leader Kim Jong Un's planned summit with President Donald Trump next month.

Expect good imagery. But not much else.

The public display of the closure of the facility on Mount Mantap will likely be heavy on spectacle and light on substance. And the media will be spending much of their time in an unrelated tourism zone that North Korea hopes will be the next big thing for its economy if Kim's diplomatic overtures pay off in the months ahead.

For sure, the closure is a milestone, marking an end to the world's last active underground testing site and offering some important insights into Kim's mindset as he sets the stage for his meeting with Trump.

A look at what's hype and what's worth paying attention to:

THE SUBSTANCE

Kim announced his plan to close the test site during a gathering of senior party leaders last month, just ahead of his summit with South Korean President Moon Jae-in. His explanation to the party was that North Korea's nuclear development is now complete and further underground testing is unnecessary.

North Korea has conducted six underground nuclear tests since 2006. Its most recent and most powerful explosion, which the North claims tested a hydrogen bomb, was in September. All of its tests have been carried out at Punggye-ri, in the country's mountainous northeast interior.

Before Kim's announcement, North Korea was the only country that still conducted underground tests.

Kim's claim that such tests are no longer needed may have an element of bravado to it. While the North has demonstrated beyond a doubt that it can produce viable, high-yield nuclear weapons, many experts believe it could still benefit considerably by conducting more tests.

"North Korea certainly would need more tests to have any confidence in its H-bomb," said physicist David Wright, co-director of the global security program of the Union of Concerned Scientists. Wright said the North's most recent test is a prime example. He believes it was a "demonstration-of-principle device" that was not designed to be small or light enough to be delivered by missile.

"The bottom line is that stopping testing is important to limit its ability to build reliable, deliverable warheads—especially for an H-bomb," he said.

So in that sense, Kim is making a significant concession. And if Kim were to switch gears and decide to test again, he would almost certainly be caught. It's hard to hide a high-powered nuclear blast. Compliance is verifiable.

But the way Kim plans to dismantle the site shows he is, as yet, only willing to go so far.

Adam Mount, a senior fellow with the Federation of American Scientists, believes that by inviting international media instead of international monitors, North Korea has "stepped back from a principle of verification." Journalists do not have the technical expertise, the time spent on site or the equipment necessary to properly analyze and assess the process.

AP

In this combination of file photos, U.S. President Donald Trump, left, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington on May 16, 2018, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in a meeting with South Korean leader Moon Jae-in in Panmunjom, South Korea, on April 27, 2018.

"When the United States did not hold Pyongyang to this standard, it lost the first public quarrel over verification," he said.

THE DOG AND PONY SHOW

The event will be held sometime between Wednesday and Friday, depending on the weather.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry has invited journalists from China, Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom and South Korea to fly on a charter aircraft from Beijing for what it is calling a "ceremony" marking the site's closure.

North Korea says the process will involve collapsing all tunnels with explosions, completely blocking tunnel entrances, removing all observation and research facilities and taking down structures used for guarding the site. Satellite imagery suggests some of the work has already begun.

How much of it the journalists, including an Associated Press Television crew, will be able to see is an open question. They will be put up at a hotel in faraway Wonsan, where the press center will be located, and make what promises to be a lengthy trip to the nuclear site by a special train. It's unclear how long they will be allowed to stay at the site.

What is clear is why they are going to Wonsan, which is probably the most presentable city in North Korea after the capital.

It's the center of a tourism zone the North has been pouring money into and is trying hard to promote.

The media will fly into its shiny new airport and stay at one of its opulent new tourist hotels. If not actually bused there, they will undoubtedly be reminded that Masik Pass, the North's luxury ski resort, and scenic Mount Kumgang, which just a decade ago was open to South Korean tourists, are just a short drive away.

Two birds, one stone, as they say.

THE TAKEAWAY

Veteran North Korea watchers note that we have been to this rodeo before.

With international talks to dismantle its nuclear program underway in 2008, North Korea called in the foreign media to film the demolition of a 20-meter (66-foot) -tall cooling tower at its Yongbyon nuclear reactor. The move prompted Washington to take North Korea off its list of state sponsors of terrorism and lift some sanctions.

The talks later fell apart, and the reactor at Yongbyon is once again producing plutonium.

So caution is warranted. None of this is necessarily about denuclearization.

The North's declaration that it will end its underground testing and close the Punggye-ri site could just as well be interpreted as a move to bolster Kim's claim that his country is now a responsible nuclear power and appease the concerns of its neighbor and economic lifeline, China.

"Nobody else does it anymore," said Joshua Pollack, a senior research associate with the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, in California. "So if you want to claim that you're a full-fledged nuclear-armed state, it tends to undercut your message if you keep testing."

Overdrive

By EMMA JAYNE WILLIAMS
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Emma Jayne Williams' auto reviews appear in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. She can be reached at emmajayne1948@gmail.com.

TNS

The 2018 Stinger GT2 RWD. The Stinger is Kia's first sedan available with all-wheel drive, for an extra $2,200.

Kia's all-new 2018 Stinger sport sedan offers premium features, performance

Kia vehicles have become more stylish and appealing lately, and now, with the all-new Stinger sport sedan, performance is maximized as well.

About the size of the mid-size Kia Optima sedan, the new Stinger premium fastback sedan is lower, sleeker, and more powerful, with an aggressive yet graceful design setting it apart from similarly priced sedans.

The interior is refined and comfortable, challenging similar luxury-brand vehicles. Prices start at $31,900 for the base model with rear-wheel drive and a turbocharged 255-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder.

But the top model is the Stinger GT 3.3, starting at $38,350, which comes with a 365-horsepower twin-turbo V-6. All-wheel drive is optional.

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The GT was named one of Wards 10 Best Interiors for 2018. Wards recognizes achievement in aesthetics, comfort, ergonomics, material use, fit-and-finish and user-friendly technology.

Also honored as one of Wards 10 Best Engines, Stinger is dedicated to the thrill of the drive as well as the pampered journey .

Gregory Guillaume, chief designer for Kia Motors Europe, says the Stinger is "a true gran turismo, a car for spirited long-distance driving, is not about outright power, hard-edged dynamics and brutal styling, all at the expense of luxury, comfort and grace … this car is all about the journey. It's about passion."

Brimming with power, passion, and heart-pounding performance, Stinger is the highest-performance production vehicle in Kia's history. It's bold, nimble and fast, luxurious and quiet, and still quite comfortable, at least for four people.

Five trims are available: Stinger 2.0, $31,900; Premium 2.0, $37,100; GT 3.3, $38,350; GT1 3.3, $43,250; and GT2 3.3, $49,200 — the model I drove for this review.

An in-house designed second-generation eight-speed rear-wheel drive automatic transmission is standard. But the Stinger is Kia's first sedan available with all-wheel drive, for an extra $2,200.

With the 3.3-liter engine, the Stinger GT is capable of accelerating from zero to 60 mph in 4.7 seconds, and has a governed top speed of 167 mph. Paddle shifters allow the driver to manually run through the gears, with up to five modes available (a Kia first) — Eco, Smart, Comfort, Sport, and Custom.

Stinger's exterior design is both eye-catching and functional, from the long hood and short front overhang to the long rear overhang with strong shoulders.

An extended wheelbase delivers a spacious cabin sitting toward the rear, with steeply raked windshield and rear window creating a fast silhouette. A chrome trim strip flows from the bottom of the front pillar, across the top of the doors, through the rear pillar to the lower edge of the rear window.

Large gloss black and silver air intakes and air curtains in the front are dramatic while providing air for cooling the brakes and reducing front-end lift.

New silver-trimmed "gills" behind the front wheel arches help reduce wake turbulence from air passing over the car's flanks, and add a sporty flair. And, along with deeply recessed contours along the doors, they enhance the visual power of the shoulder line and sportback silhouette.

Kia's signature "tiger-nose" grille is outlined with chrome, and the honeycomb insert is edged in chrome. A cluster of small LED lights in the corner of the complex LED headlights (with high-beam assist) echo the "honeycomb" shape.

A smooth underbody flowing into the rear diffuser, along with a "ducktail" shaped rear spoiler, enhances aerodynamics, reducing lift and increasing high-speed stability. The lower height of the rear of the roof enhances the "aerofoil" shape, adding to Stinger's aerodynamic efficiency.

Gloss black and silver air vents cut into the sculpted hood. Chrome mirror caps dress the front doors, and four oval exhaust pipes peek out of the gloss black rear valance.

My Stinger was the rear-wheel-drive GT2 in bright HiChroma Red, one of five available colors, which also include Ceramic Silver, Aurora Black Pearl, Mica Blue Pearl, and Snow White Pearl.

The interior was Black Nappa Leather, with satin chrome on the door handles, door armrests, across the lower dash, around the spoked circular air vents, on the center console, and on the speaker grilles.

Nineteen-inch wheels had five "Y" spokes with silver machined edges, gray pockets, and gray grooves forming a star around the hub. Staggered ultra-high performance Michelin Pilot Sport tires specifically engineered and tuned for Stinger finished the package.

High-performance Brembo brakes with large-diameter discs designed to dissipate heat quickly delivered short stopping distances.

GT2 has Kia's first electronically controlled suspension, called Dynamic Stability Damping Control, which can be tuned for more agility by softening the front shocks and firming the rear. Stiffening the front and softening the rear achieve high-speed stability. The system is accessed through the same modes as the paddle shifters.

Entry and exit were easy, with tall door openings and a low, narrow stepover, although taller rear passengers needed to stoop slightly due to the sloping roofline.

The interior was elegant and athletic, thanks to the ultra-soft quilted Nappa leather and soft-touch materials. Air-cell bladders in the seatback and width-adjusting bolsters offered optimal support and comfort.

Piano key controls on the center stack were well-placed and simple, situated low on the stack below three vents, divided into two groups — infotainment incorporated into the chrome dash trim, and climate (with filtration) nestled in a cubby below.

Once the climate controls were set, they rarely required adjustment — even during crazy, up-and-down spring temperatures. Front and rear vents were well-placed, without noticeable hot or cold spots. Warm and inviting multi-color LED ambient lighting softly illuminated the cozy interior.

A telescoping steering wheel along with power multi-adjustable driver's seat made it quick and easy to find the best driving position. Both seating rows had generous leg room, and a low seating position meant ample headroom front and back — although rear passengers found little space under the front seats for their feet.

Loading the trunk was easy with a Smart Power Trunk lid (actually a hatch) — opened from inside with a button, from outside with a button on the key fob or by pressing the trunk handle. A low liftover height was also helpful.

Inside the trunk is 23.3 cubic feet of space for luggage or golf bags, groceries or gardening supplies. Folding the rear seatbacks produces 40 cubic feet for DIY supplies or sports equipment.

The infotainment touch screen was mounted high on the dash, for easy visibility, and had easy-to-understand menus and sharp graphics. Bluetooth is standard, with many of the vehicle's subsystems available through steering-wheel-mounted controls.

Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are also standard and easy to use through the touch screen. Kia's Uvo infotainment system uses voice commands, but Apple CarPlay allows the user to speak more naturally — a bonus for us Southern speakers.

My Stinger had a premium Harman/Kardon audio system, producing 720 watts through an external amplifier for crystal-clear sound. The system utilized 15 speakers and Kia's first under-seat subwoofers (driver and passenger), and featured Clari-Fi to rebuild audio signals lost in the digital compression process, and QuantumLogic Surround Sound technology to extract and redistribute signals from original recordings for authentic multidimensional soundstage playback.

A Head-Up Display projected speed, turn-by-turn navigation, audio, and cruise control setting, as well as Blind Spot Collision Warning information onto the windshield. The height-adjustable display was easy to read day or night.

All of the Kia Stinger's advanced safety features are available across the lineup — standard on my GT2 and a $2,000 add-on on other models. They include Forward Collision Avoidance with pedestrian detection; Smart Cruise Control with Stop & Go; Lane Keeping Assist; Blind Spot Collision Warning with Rear Cross-Traffic Collision Warning; and a Kia first, Driver Attention Warning, which sounds a chime and displays a graphic on the instrument panel if it senses the driver is inattentive and needs a break. Kia's safety features are smartly tuned to reduce false alarms.

The stylish and powerful Stinger is very easy and fun to drive, easy to maneuver in tight spots, secure and stable in turns, gets up to speed effortlessly with only a slight delay from a standstill. It shifts smoothly and quickly, rides smoothly over most road surfaces, and brakes quickly and smoothly. The cabin was quiet, thanks in part to the ultra-stiff foundation.

With $900 destination charges and no options, the delivered price for my eye-catching Kia Stinger GT2 with rear-wheel drive was $50,100.

The Stinger delivers a lot of performance for the price, striking a good balance of power, handling, and braking, with room for five and/or lots of cargo, and an air of elegance and athleticism.

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Life & Style

School victims honored at Billboard Awards

The 2018 Billboard Music Awards paid tribute to the students and teachers affected by recent deadly shootings in Texas and Florida, while the night also featured show-stopping performances by iconic singer Janet Jackson and K-pop group BTS.

A tearful and emotional Kelly Clarkson, who hosted the awards, opened the show in honor of the 10 people who died Friday at Santa Fe High School, barely able to speak as she urged the audience and the world to do more to prevent deadly shootings from happening. She said she was asked to hold a moment of silence, but chose instead to call for "a moment of action."

"Once again we're grieving for more kids that have died ... I'm so sick of moment of silences ... it's not working," she said Sunday, almost in tears. "Mommies and daddies should be able to send their kids to school."

Shawn Mendes and Khalid were joined onstage by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Show Choir for the song "Youth," a performance occurring three months after 17 people were killed at the school in Parkland, Florida.

Khalid, seventh from left, and Shawn Mendes, fifth from right, perform "Youth" with the Stoneman Douglas choir, of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena on Sunday, May 20, 2018, in Las Vegas. AP

Mendes and the choir members wore sweaters that read "Youth," while Khalid's shirt read "Protect Our Guns Children" with "Guns" crossed out.

The show wasn't all somber though: Jackson rocked the Billboard Awards with an energetic and powerful performance of her past hits in an epic week that included her 52nd birthday and the 25th anniversary of her groundbreaking "janet." album.

In a glittery gold sweater-dress and thigh-high boots, Jackson sang "Nasty," "If" and "Throb" as audience members such as Ciara and Tyra Banks danced along at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

Bruno Mars made a surprise appearance to introduce the singer, who earned the Icon Award.

Jackson used her speech to pay tribute to powerful women.

"Women have made it clear that we no longer will be controlled, manipulated or abused. I stand with those women and with those men equally outraged by discrimination who support us in heart and mind," she said onstage.

Another highlight came when BTS, who won top social artist Sunday night, performed onstage.

Clarkson sported huge, puffy earmuffs as she introduced the K-pop group, who easily earned the loudest applause from the audience throughout the night. Whenever their name was mentioned, or when the camera panned to the band members, the audience erupted—some even holding fan made signs.

WINNERS' LIST

A list of winners in the top categories at the 2018 Billboard Music Awards, held Sunday at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

- **Top Hot 100 song:** "Despacito" by Luis Fonsi and Daddy Yankee featuring Justin Bieber
- **Top Billboard 200 album:** "DAMN." by Kendrick Lamar
- **Top artist:** Ed Sheeran
- **Top new artist:** Khalid
- **Top female artist:** Taylor Swift
- **Top male artist:** Ed Sheeran
- **Top streaming songs artist:** Kendrick Lamar
- **Top song sales artist:** Ed Sheeran
- **Top radio songs artist:** Ed Sheeran
- **Top duo/group:** Imagine Dragons
- **Top R&B artist:** Bruno Mars
- **Top rap artist:** Kendrick Lamar
- **Top country artist:** Chris Stapleton
- **Top rock artist:** Imagine Dragons
- **Top Latin artist:** Ozuna
- **Top dance/electronic artist:** The Chainsmokers
- **Top Christian artist:** MercyMe
- **Top gospel artist:** Tasha Cobbs Leonard
- **Top social artist:** BTS
- **Top touring artist:** U2
- **Chart achievement award:** Camila Cabello
- **Icon award:** Janet Jackson

'Deadpool 2' ends Avengers' box-office reign, rakes in $125M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Deadpool and his foul-mouthed crew of misfits and malcontents have taken down the Avengers.

Fox's "Deadpool 2" brought in $125 million this weekend, giving it the second-highest opening ever for an R-rated movie and ending the three-week reign of Disney's "Avengers: Infinity War" at the top of the North American box office, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"Deadpool 2," with Ryan Reynolds returning as the title character and co-writing this time, fell somewhat short of the $130 million the studio predicted and the $132.4 million that its predecessor earned two years ago.

Analysts and the studio said the difference can be attributed to the first film opening on a holiday weekend, and could easily be made up with Memorial Day coming, despite the looming competition from "Solo: A Star Wars Story."

"I think with a holiday on our second weekend we'll catch 'Deadpool' if not exceed it," said Chris Aronson, distribution chief for 20th Century Fox.

The film grossed $176.3 million internationally and opened better overseas than the first, especially finding audiences in Latin America.

The Avengers are hardly hurting. Disney and Marvel's "Avengers: Infinity War" brought in an estimated $29 million in North America for a four-week take of $595 million domestically and $1.2 billion overseas. It's now the fifth highest grossing film of all time worldwide.

In a whole different corner of the cinematic universe, "Book Club" was third with a $12.5 million weekend that exceeded expectations.

It was a successful piece of counter-programming for Paramount, which used the modestly budgeted comedy starring Jane Fonda, Diane Keaton and Candice Bergen to find older audiences and women while "Deadpool 2" dwelled overwhelmingly on young men.

"There are definitely audiences out there for whom superhero movies are not their cup of tea," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore.

"Deadpool 2" follows the proudly foul formula of the first, mixing the usual superhero set pieces with gore, gross-out jokes, 80s power ballads and frequent fourth-wall violations.

The box office of the second film suggests that formula can become a long-term franchise, and builds its possibilities with the addition of antihero teammates from Marvel Comics for the title character, including Josh Brolin's Cable and Zazie Beetz's Domino.

"The source material is so vast and rich that I don't think there's any question that it just opens the door for more," Aronson said.

Along with the earnings and acclaim for last year's R-rated "Logan," Fox has made itself the early leader in the burgeoning subgenre.

"The R-rating may be restrictive in terms of the audience make-up, but it's certainly not restrictive in the creative freedom it offers, so when movies like these hit, they can hit big," Dergarabedian said. "There is a place for the R rating. In the superhero genre it offers endless and really cool possibilities."

"Deadpool 2" next faces off with "Solo," but the two films along with the still-earning "Avengers" ought to make for a major Memorial Day for the industry.

"This marketplace is big enough for all these films," Dergarabedian said.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **"Deadpool 2,"** $125 million ($176.3 million international).
2. **"Avengers: Infinity War,"** $28.6 million ($84.4 million international).
3. **"Book Club,"** $12.5 million.
4. **"Life of the Party,"** $7.7 million ($1.3 million international).
5. **"Breaking In,"** $6.4 million ($300,000 international).
6. **"Show Dogs,"** $6 million.
7. **"Overboard,"** $4.7 million ($4.1 million international).
8. **"A Quiet Place,"** $4 million ($18.8 million international).
9. **"Rampage,"** $1.5 million ($4.4 million international).
10. **"I Feel Pretty,"** $1.2 million ($1.7 million international).

'Jurassic Park' dinosaur expert's next big thing: holograms

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—Forget the gray, green and brown dinosaurs in the "Jurassic Park" movies. Paleontologist Jack Horner wants to transport people back in time to see a feathered Tyrannosaurus rex colored bright red and a blue triceratops with red fringe similar to a rooster's comb.

Horner, who consulted with director Steven Spielberg on the "Jurassic Park" films, is developing a three-dimensional hologram exhibit that will showcase the latest theories on what dinosaurs looked like. He is working with entertainment company Base Hologram to create an exhibit that will let people feel as though they're on an archaeological dig, inside a laboratory and surrounded by dinosaurs in the wild.

"I'm always trying to figure out a good way to get the science of paleontology across to the general public," Horner said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "Like taking them into the field or taking them into my laboratory and then using the technology that we have to show people what dinosaurs were really like."

That understanding of what dinosaurs looked like has changed a lot since the original "Jurassic Park" in 1993. For example, researchers now believe dinosaurs were much more bird-like than lizard-like, and scientists studying dinosaur skulls have found keratin, a substance that gives birds their bright colors.

"We can see at least areas that could be vividly colored, very much like birds, and there's no reason to make them different from birds," Horner said.

Horner and Base Hologram workers have been developing the exhibit's story line for a couple of months, with plans to have multiple traveling exhibits ready to launch by spring 2019. The company wants to place them in museums, science centers and other institutions where they might spur debate among scientists who don't share the theory that dinosaurs were colorful, feathered creatures.

"The controversy is OK because it makes people talk," said Base Hologram executive vice president Michael Swinney.

Britain basks in royal wedding afterglow

LONDON (AP)—Unwilling to kiss Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding goodbye just yet, Britain basked Sunday in the scale of the spectacle as major broadcasters kept scenes from the royal nuptials on repeat along with fresh interviews with the bride's dressmaker.

The newlyweds have not been seen in public since they left Windsor Castle in a rare 1968 Jaguar convertible for a Saturday night reception hosted by the groom's father, Prince Charles.

They were expected to return to their home at Kensington Palace in London on Sunday, but the palace did not provide updates or details. Markle's bridal bouquet was laid at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior at the British capital's Westminster Abbey.

But anyone with a lingering case of royal wedding fever could join the tourists and locals soaking up the romantic mood and continued sunshine in the town of Windsor, where Saturday's wedding and post-service carriage procession were held.

Good wishes poured in from around the world. British singer Adele posted a message on Instagram Sunday along with a photo of herself wearing a veil and toasting with a glass of champagne. She wished the couple well and invoked the memory of Princess Diana, Harry's late mother.

The royal newlyweds took a short trip through Windsor in a horse-drawn carriage, to the delight of thousands of well-wishers. The crowd roared as Harry and Meghan emerged from St. George's Chapel and kissed at the top of the steps. (May 19)

"Congratulations Meghan and Harry," she wrote. "You're the most beautiful bride. I can't stop thinking of how happy Princess Diana is upstairs x."

Kensington Palace did not release details, but photographs showed Markle, now known

AP

A photo illustration showing a selection of British Newspaper front pages with pictures from the wedding of Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, in London, Sunday, May 20, 2018.

formally as the Duchess of Sussex, wearing to the evening reception a large, emerald-cut aquamarine ring that Diana wore often before she died in a Paris car crash in 1997.

The wedding was the only topic of the day in Britain's newspapers and on its television networks. The tone of the press coverage was congratulatory, with publications taking pride in the evident British flair for producing memorable events with fantastic settings and split-second precision.

Former British Cabinet minister Peter Mandelson told ITV Sunday that the wedding was so moving that he is now considering proposing marriage to his longtime partner.

"People all over the country are going to feel inspired, they are all going to want to run out and get married now," he said.

The royal family, understandably thrilled by the good weather and good will, expressed gratitude to the visitors and viewers who came to Windsor or tuned in via TV.

"Thank you to everyone who came to Windsor and those who followed from around the UK, the Commonwealth, and the world," the royals said.

After the big day, Queen Elizabeth II returned to her normal routine. She was seen being driven back to Windsor Castle after attending a Sunday morning church service.

The designer of Markle's deceptively simple wedding gown and elaborate veil said Sunday that she received the special commission in early January and managed to keep it secret not only from the inquisitive British press, but from her family.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Chrissy Teigen and John Legend reveal name of newborn son

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chrissy Teigen and John Legend now have a baby boy to go with their toddler girl. The 32-year-old model and 39-year-old singer, whose real name is John Roger Stephens, introduced Miles Theodore Stephens to the world on Sunday. Teigen had been hinting to her millions of social media followers for several days that the baby was here, and the couple announced in January that they were having a boy. Teigen finally confirmed it with Instagram and Twitter posts and a picture. She said on Instagram that she and Legend are "drowning in his little peeps and nuzzles" and their "household feels overwhelmed with love." Teigen tweeted that Miles arrived "a few weeks early" but gave no other details. Teigen and Legend, who married in 2013, have a 2-year-old daughter, Luna.

Stars urge Indonesia to ban 'brutal' trade in dog meat

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—International stars of acting, music and sports have urged Indonesia's president to ban what they say is a brutal trade in dog and cat meat for human consumption. The appeal comes after Indonesian campaigners against animal cruelty and Humane Society International in January exposed markets on the island of Sulawesi where dogs were bludgeoned by the thousands and blow-torched alive to remove their hair before onlookers including children. The letter to President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo released Monday said if Indonesia joined other Asian nations that have already banned the cruel trade, it would be "celebrated globally" and end a stain on the country's reputation. The coalition of campaigners, calling itself Dog Meat-Free Indonesia, also warned of health risks posed by the trade due to its potential to spread rabies.

NYPD probing sex allegations against Mario Batali

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Police Department is investigating allegations of sexual misconduct leveled against celebrity chef Mario Batali. The NYPD confirmed the probe following a "60 Minutes" broadcast Sunday night in which an unnamed woman accused Batali of drugging and sexually assaulting her in 2005. She says she remembers joining him for a glass of wine at a Manhattan restaurant, then waking up on the floor feeling drugged and assaulted. She says she talked to the police but never filed a report. Batali issued a statement to CBS denying that he assaulted the woman. Batali stepped down from daily operations at his restaurant empire and cooking show "The Chew" in December after four women accused him of inappropriate touching over a period of 20 years. Batali has apologized for those encounters.

Man devoted to wife suffering Parkinson's fulfills his vows

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing in response to "Requires Companionship" (Feb. 7), whose husband has atypical Parkinson's and she's considering dating. My wife was diagnosed nine years ago, and she, too, has reached the point where she can no longer walk, write or speak. We have, however, found ways to communicate and spend quality time together.

I tried to care for her at home, but over the last year and a half, it became too difficult. With the help of our daughters, we found a wonderful senior living place where she is happy. I go to the gym every morning, then visit with her and have lunch. I bring her clothes home to wash and take care of anything she may need or want. We spend the holidays together with the family at her place to make things special.

We are both 81, married 57 years. I, too, am lonely and sad at times, but I love her more than the world and want to make sure she is well taken care of and content. As for companionship, I have met some wonderful people at the senior living place, as well as at the gym and in restaurants I frequent, which helps with the loneliness.

If the shoe were on the other foot, I know she'd do the same for me. After all, that is what our marriage is all about, "in sickness and in health, 'til death do us part."

JIM IN NEVADA

DEAR JIM: Your letter is inspirational. In your P.S. you asked me to print it to help others. Your letter, and others I'm including here, may help to put this sensitive subject into perspective:

DEAR ABBY: I am a young 57-year-old woman. My husband has Parkinson's and brain tumors. We have a son with autism, so I have been a caregiver for more than 30 years of marriage.

To "Requires" I say: Take time for yourself, but do not tell your husband. Enjoy what years you have left and grab some of the happiness you deserve. Don't let anyone tell you that you are cheating on your husband. The life you had with him was over emotionally and physically long ago. You have given up enough of your life. Your husband is having all his needs met and now it's your turn.

Yes, I believe in marriage. But who is going to worry about you? People who judge you don't understand and won't understand. Joining a support group may help, but don't put yourself on the back burner. You count, too. Good luck and God bless.

SANDRA IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 64-year-old woman who was in the same boat for 15 years. My husband was angry, passive-aggressive and reclusive. Leaving him to die on his own (of cancer) was unthinkable. So was actually dating.

What saved my life and sanity was Meetup. With my husband's blessing, I joined and participated in five social groups with different interests—lunch with the ladies, dinners and hikes, craft clubs, etc. I was out with communicative people at least twice a week and came home happier, usually with restaurant treats and stories to share.

"R.C.'s" life does not need to feel like it's over. It's possible to plant new seedlings for the future while not causing any problems now.

WISHING HER WELL IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: As the daughter of someone with Parkinson's, I know what it's like not to be able to talk with a loved one. My mom communicates by writing and using a voice assistance computer.

"R.C.'s" husband didn't ask for this disease. He is feeling lonely, too, but he is not dead. She should work on developing a different approach to communicating with him. These patients may lose the ability to speak, but not the ability to think clearly and see what is going on around them.

BEEN THERE IN PENNSYLVANIA

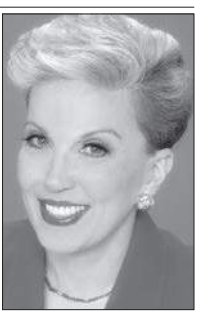
DEAR ABBY: That woman's husband may have cognitive issues as well as the physical ones. In any case, she has lost the husband she once had. Seeking companionship is normal. So is wanting to be touched and cared for. Six years into this, she has demonstrated loyalty and love. If she is respectful and discreet, taking care of herself will benefit her ability to care for him. Everyone wins.

LOOKING AFTER MYSELF

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

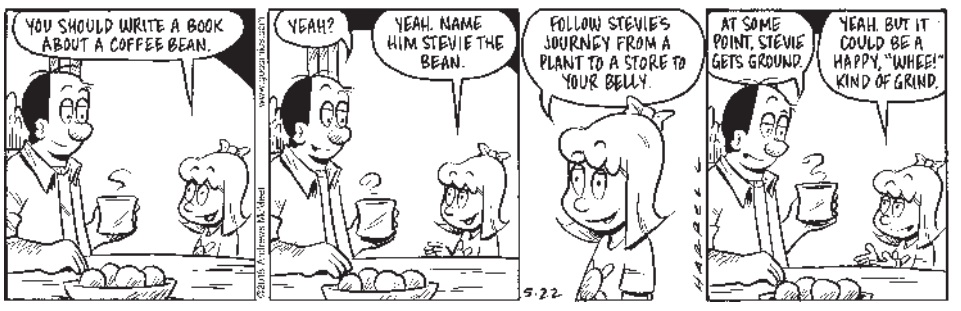
YOU BROKE THE BINOCULARS?!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO BE EXTRA, EXTRA CAREFUL WITH THEM?
ISN'T THAT EXACTLY WHAT I DID?
WELL?!
THOSE BINOCULARS WERE BRAND NEW! HAVE YOU NO RESPECT FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY?!
I HAVE AN IDEA, DAD. LET'S PRETEND I ALREADY FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT IT, AND THAT YOU DON'T NEED TO RUB IT IN ANY MORE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

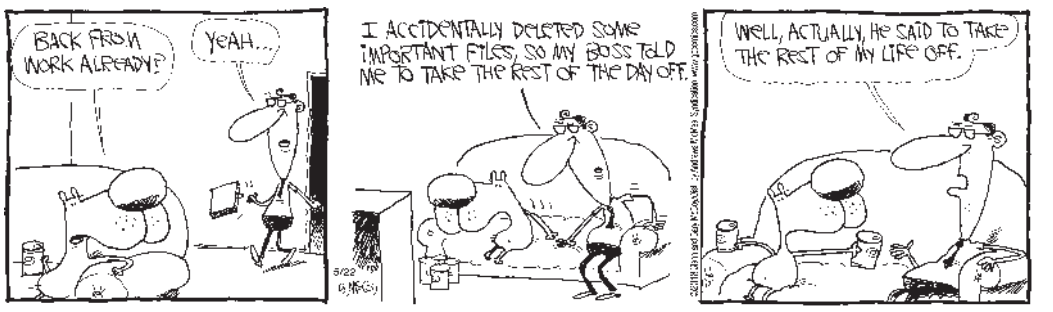
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


YOU SHOULD WRITE A BOOK ABOUT A COFFEE BEAN.
YEAH?
YEAH. NAME HIM STEVIE THE BEAN.
FOLLOW STEVIE'S JOURNEY FROM A PLANT TO A STORE TO YOUR BELLY.
AT SOME POINT, STEVIE GETS GROUND.
YEAH. BUT IT COULD BE A HAPPY, "WHEE!" KIND OF GRIND.
5-22

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


BACK FROM WORK ALREADY?
YEAH...
I ACCIDENTALLY DELETED SOME IMPORTANT FILES, SO MY BOSS TOLD ME TO TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF.
WELL, ACTUALLY, HE SAID TO TAKE THE REST OF MY LIFE OFF.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

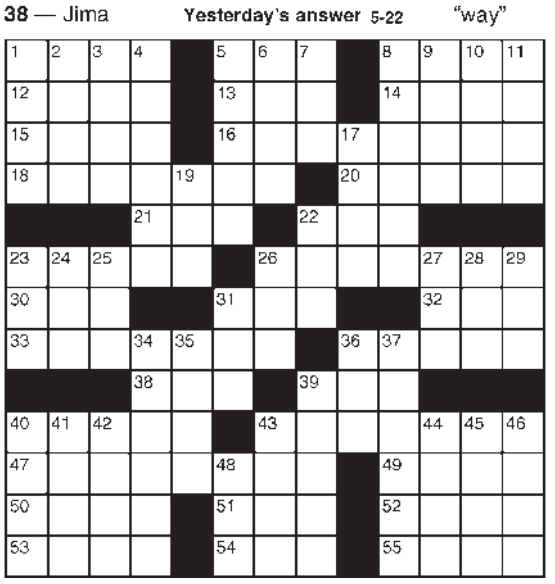
ACROSS
1 Level
5 Resort
8 Raven calls
12 Theater section
13 Japanese pond carp
14 Smell — (suspect)
15 Japanese noodle
16 Big business
18 Prejudice
20 What sun and fun do
21 Hogwash
22 Roman 401
23 Spectrum creator
26 Nation
30 Fine, to NASA
31 Short 'do
32 Owned by us
33 Rocket's come-back
36 Exhibits ennui
38 — Jima
39 Prune
40 Place for sweaters?
43 Chickens and ducks, e.g.
47 Lineage
49 Crunchy cookie
50 Hide
51 Motorist's org.
52 Pepper dispenser
53 Vacillate
54 Popeye's Olive
55 Library loan

DOWN
1 Blunder
2 California city
3 Awe-struck
4 Choir singers
5 Avoid
6 Shetland, for one
7 Succor
8 Redeem
9 Bohemian
10 Friendly
11 Eyelid woe
17 Pakistani language
19 Male turkey
22 Corn core
23 Standard
24 Sturgeon product
25 Presidential nickname
26 Coquettish
27 AAA job
28 Scoot
29 Decade parts (Abbr.)
31 Street address?
34 Four score and ten
35 "— the night before ..."
36 Thee
37 Poise
39 Faithful
40 Easy targets
41 Fresh
42 Bruins' sch.
43 Use a rosary
44 Half a sextet
45 Move, in realtor-speak
46 Egg part
48 Eastern "way"

Solution time: 22 mins.

H	E	W	S	■	■	A	B	■	A	C	H	E
A	L	A	I	■	C	X	C	■	T	O	F	D
R	I	V	F	■	S	F	M	P	F	R	F	I
D	A	Y	S	P	A	■	B	R	O	N	T	F
■	■	■	T	A	■	K	■	S	U	B	■	■
S	E	M	A	N	T	I	C	■	T	E	A	M
A	L	A	■	T	O	T	A	L	■	L	Y	E
L	I	M	B	■	S	E	M	E	S	T	E	R
■	■	■	M	E	C	■	S	E	E	M	■	■
P	R	A	Y	E	R	■	B	R	E	A	S	T
S	E	M	O	L	I	N	A	■	A	L	O	E
S	P	I	N	■	M	A	C	■	R	O	D	S
T	C	A	D	■	E	E	K	■	S	T	A	T

Yesterday's answer 5-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Novak Djokovic, 31; Apolo Ohno, 36; Ginnifer Goodwin, 40; Naomi Campbell, 48.

Happy Birthday: Your energetic approach to life won't mix well with your emotions this year. Expect to face opposition and differences of opinion when dealing with domestic matters or friends and relatives. Hard work will pay off, but you'll have to stay focused and avoid interference if you want to reach your goal. An unexpected change will turn into a life lesson. Your numbers are 1, 8, 15, 21, 24, 36, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Have a plan. Preparation and organization, along with keeping busy, will help you ward off anyone looking for a reason to complain. Take better care of your health, and do what you can to lower your stress. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Change can be good if you aren't in a rush. Haste makes waste and can lead to disagreements if someone is opposed to what you want to do. You'll find greater comfort in maintaining stability and making practical choices. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Be willing to listen and to compromise when faced with sensitive issues. Whether dealing with someone you live or work with, it will be necessary to do your share if you want to avoid complaints. A fitness regimen will ease anxiety. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* An emotional situation will lead to greater stability. Knowing someone's intentions or sharing yours will help clear up any uncertainty you might feel. Speak up, offer suggestions and work through any differences that could cause a problem. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't make trouble. Concentrate on what you need to accomplish and let your work speak for you. Staying on top of your responsibilities will keep you busy, giving you less time to be indulgent. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Share your feelings; you'll get a good response. Talking through plans or likes and dislikes will help you build a strong relationship with the people you care about most. Pursuing knowledge and skills will pay off and encourage greater opportunities. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Expect to face opposition. If someone is demanding or trying to dump added responsibilities on you, make it clear what you are capable of doing and what you are not. Don't leave unfinished anything you are accountable for. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* You'll accomplish your goals if you refuse to get into an unnecessary argument. Let others do what they want so you can focus on what you'd like to achieve without interference. A romantic gesture will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You'll come to a crossroads regarding an emotional issue you have with someone. Honesty is the only way you will be able to flush out the problem and find a solution. If someone is being evasive, ask direct questions. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Money or a gift will come from an unusual source. Check your bank and credit card statements and make changes to an investment. Buying and selling assets will help lower your overhead and add to your financial stability. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Spend time at home going through your possessions and purging. Avoid travel or discussions with people who tend to tempt you to indulge or overspend. Too much of anything will backfire, leaving you in a vulnerable position. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Share your thoughts and feelings; you'll be given interesting feedback as well as encouragement. Getting ahead is in the stars if you update your resume or apply for a position that promises more benefits and higher wages. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are proactive, reliable and thoughtful. You are sensitive and insightful.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		1		4				9
			5		8			
2				7	3			
	9					5	7	
3		7		1		4		6
	6	4					8	
			4	8				5
			3		5			
4				2		7		

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

3	2	7	9	1	4	6	5	8
4	9	5	3	8	6	7	2	1
8	1	6	2	5	7	4	9	3
2	7	8	4	3	5	1	6	9
1	5	3	7	6	9	8	4	2
9	6	4	8	2	1	3	7	5
7	8	9	5	4	3	2	1	6
5	3	1	6	7	2	9	8	4
6	4	2	1	9	8	5	3	7

Difficulty Level ★ 5/21

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

TREADMILLS **Solution: 7 letters**

S	E	S	E	I	R	O	L	A	C	S	N	A	F	R
P	S	T	U	O	K	R	O	W	S	A	F	E	T	Y
E	I	E	C	R	T	E	C	A	P	L	L	I	H	T
E	C	E	N	L	F	L	T	S	O	C	F	T	G	N
D	R	M	E	T	A	A	E	A	U	G	A	N	I	A
P	E	B	R	N	I	F	C	S	D	O	T	I	E	R
H	X	N	D	O	I	F	H	E	T	J	B	R	W	R
S	E	I	N	L	F	L	N	O	Z	O	U	P	I	A
S	C	A	R	D	I	O	C	O	L	O	R	S	N	W
E	I	T	R	A	C	K	R	N	Z	D	N	A	T	S
R	D	N	O	T	T	U	B	P	I	I	E	E	G	L
G	R	N	E	E	R	C	S	O	L	E	R	R	S	E
O	O	M	A	N	U	A	L	W	E	S	L	O	S	D
R	N	S	E	C	N	A	T	S	I	D	G	C	H	O
P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L	E	N	I	H	C	A	M

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Adjust, Belt, Button, Calories, Cardio, Core, Cost, Distances, Exercise, Fans, Fat Burner, Fitness, Heart Rate, Hill, Holders, Horizon, Incline, Jog, Landice, Life Span, Machine, Manual, Models, Nordic, Pace, Physical, Precor, Proform, Progress, Safety, Screen, SOLE, Speed, Sprint, Storage, Surface, Track, Warranty, Weight, Weslo, Workout, Zones

Yesterday's Answer: Manhattan

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 51,** order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

LUZVIMINDA T. ESPEJO
P.O. BOX 501188, SAIPAN, MP 96950
670-287-0959
Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LUZVIMINDA T. ESPEJO Petitioner, -vs- ROMEO D. ESPEJO Respondent,	)))))	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0019 **SUMMONS**

To: Respondent, Romeo D. Espejo

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Luzviminda T. Espejo, whose address is P.O. Box 501188, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 18th day of January, 2018.
/s/ Clerk of Court

share the power of a wish.
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Visit us at: Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive. ITC Bldg, Suite 109
Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474 • Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org
Saipan Tribune

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-18-003
PL-UNGRADED: $ 816.12 B/W
$ 21,219.07 Annual
Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arm
Opening Date: May 16, 2018
Closing Date: June 06, 2018

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan
General Duties:

- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Must complete a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- May undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.
- Undergo a pre-employment drug test

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. **All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

WHATZIT Solution: A play on words

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

HAMLET LYRICS

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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Ohtani pitches Angels to skid-snapping win vs Rays

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Shohei Ohtani struck out nine while throwing 7 2/3 innings of excellent six-hit ball in his seventh career start, and the Los Angeles Angels snapped their five-game skid with a 5-2 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Sunday.

Martin Maldonado homered and drove in two runs, and Zack Cozart drove in two more runs on sacrifice flies as the Angels wrapped up a disappointing 11-game homestand with only four victories, including both games started by Ohtani (4-1).

Los Angeles' rookie two-way sensation had another strong outing in the longest start of his stateside career. Ohtani retired 12 straight Rays after yielding rookie Johnny Field's homer leading off the third. Blake Parker pitched the ninth for his second save.

While Ohtani threw 110 pitches, reliever Sergio Romo started for Tampa Bay for the second consecutive day. He faced the Angels' first six batters and got four outs while becoming the first pitcher in 38 years to last at least one inning in back-to-back starts. The reliever gave way to Matt Andriese (1-2), who gave up two unearned runs in the fourth.

Romo gave way to Matt Andriese (1-2), who gave up two unearned runs in the fourth after making an error on Andrelton Simmons' grounder back to the mound.

Albert Pujols got the day off for the Angels, whose week-long struggles continued at the plate. Los Angeles still managed to hold a 3-1 lead after five innings despite getting just one hit, which didn't factor into any of the runs.

AP
Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher Shohei Ohtani throws to the plate during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays Sunday, May 20, 2018, in Anaheim, Calif.

Yankees 10, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Tyler Austin hit a pair of two-run homers, Sonny Gray (3-3) allowed four hits in eight innings and New York won its eighth consecutive series for the first time since 1998.

Miguel Andujar and Austin Romine added back-to-back homers in the ninth for the Yankees, who have won 14 of their last 15 against the AL Central.

Eric Skoglund (1-4) gave up six runs and eight hits in five innings.

Red Sox 5, Orioles 0

In Boston, J.D. Martinez had hit first multihomer game for Boston and drove in three runs, and Andrew Benintendi had a two-run homer among his three hits. Boston is 6-1 against Baltimore this season.

Eduardo Rodriguez (4-1) scattered nine hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Athletics 9, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Daniel Mengden (4-4) allowed two hits over seven shutout innings to win his second straight start as Oakland completed a four-game sweep.

Marcus Semien hit a two-run homer and had three RBI, and Matt Chapman had three hits.

Cubs 6, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Yu Darvish (1-3) recovered from a shaky start for his first win with the Cubs, allowing one run and two hits in six innings.

In his second outing since coming off the disabled list Tuesday, the four-time All-Star overcame a 39-pitch first inning and finished six for the third time this season.

Mets 4, Diamondbacks 1

In New York, Amed Rosario hit his first two home runs of the season and pinch-hitter Asdrubal Cabrera connected for a go-ahead drive, leading Noah Syndergaard and the Mets over the Arizona Diamondbacks for a surprising sweep.

The Mets hadn't won back-to-back games in more than a month before rolling past the NL West leaders for their first three-game sweep at home since September 2016 vs. Minnesota.

Braves 10, Marlins 9

In Atlanta, Dansby Swanson's two-run single capped a six-run ninth inning, and the NL-leading Braves rallied to stun the Miami Marlins.

Ronald Acuna Jr. drove in two runs in the seventh and another in the ninth as the Braves moved 11 games over .500 for the first time since July 5, 2014. Atlanta has won nine of its last 12.

Dodgers 7, Nationals 2

In Washington, Kike Hernandez and Yasiel Puig each hit two-run homers, and the Los Angeles Dodgers completed a three-game sweep of the Nationals.

Hernandez's blast off Stephen Strasburg in the fifth inning put the Dodgers up 3-2. Yasmani Grandal also homered off Strasburg (5-4), who allowed three runs and five hits over 6 2/3 innings with seven strikeouts.

Mariners 3, Tigers 2, 11 innings

In Seattle, Mitch Haniger hit a tying two-run homer in the ninth inning and Jean Segura's RBI single in the 11th gave the Mariners the victory over the Detroit Tigers.

Minnesota starter Francisco Liriano took a no-hitter into the seventh but closer Shane Greene blew his third save of the season, giving up Haniger's 11th home run on an 0-2 pitch with one out.

White Sox 3, Rangers 0

In Chicago, Reynaldo Lopez allowed only two hits in a career-high eight innings and the White Sox beat the Texas Rangers for their first home series win this season.

Lopez (1-3) struck out eight and walked two in his first victory since Sept. 22 against Kansas City. Jace Fry pitched a perfect ninth for his first career save.

Cardinals 5, Phillies 1

In St. Louis, Jack Flaherty struck out a career-high 13 to earn his first major league win and Tyler O'Neill homered for the Cardinals.

Making his ninth big league start, Flaherty (1-1) gave up just two hits and walked one in 7 2/3 dominant innings. He also singled in the third for his first hit.

Giants 9, Rockies 5

In San Francisco, Brandon Belt snapped a seventh-inning tie with a three-run homer for the Giants.

Nick Hundley added a solo shot later in the seventh for the Giants, who salvaged a four-game split after dropping the first two games of the series. Gorkys Hernandez hit a two-run homer in the fifth.

Padres 8, Pirates 5

In Pittsburgh, Freddy Galvis drove in the go-ahead run in a four-run ninth inning with San Diego's second successful squeeze bunt of the game, and the Padres rallied for their third win of the four-game series.

Pittsburgh took a 5-4 lead into the ninth, but Jose Pirela and Christian Villaneuva singled to start the comeback against Felipe Vazquez (2-1), who blew a save for the first time in 10 chances this season.

Twins 3, Brewers 1

In Minneapolis, Logan Morrison hit a two-run single, and four relievers worked 3 1/3 scoreless innings to lift the Twins over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Addison Reed (1-3) struck out one batter in one hitless inning. Fernando Rodney fanned the side in the ninth for his ninth save.

Astros 3, Indians 1

In Houston, Lance McCullers allowed one hit over seven innings and Brian McCann hit a two-run homer to lead the Astros past the Cleveland Indians.

With the game still scoreless in the seventh inning, McCann sent the ball over the Astros' bullpen in right-center field off an 87 mph changeup from Indians starter Carlos Carrasco (5-3). The homer brought home Yuli Gurriel, who led off the inning with a single.

Rookie Wise wins AT&T Byron Nelson for first PGA Tour title

DALLAS (AP)—Aaron Wise claimed his first US PGA Tour title Sunday, firing six birdies in a six-under 66 to win the Byron Nelson by three strokes over Australian Marc Leishman.

The 21-year-old, who started the day tied for the lead with Leishman, took full advantage of the ideal scoring conditions that prevailed at Trinity Forest when play finally got underway after a four-hour weather delay.

In the tournament's first edition at the new par-71 layout south of Dallas, Wise's 23-under par total of 261 crushed the previous scoring record of 19-under 261 set by Rory Sabbatini at the par-70 TPC Four Seasons in Irving in 2009.

Wise joined the action with back-to-back birdies at the fourth and fifth. He then birdied four in a row from the seventh through the 10th to set himself up for a march to victory on the back nine -- where one of the most pressing questions he faced was whether he would be able to finish the round before darkness fell.

Leishman, who launched the week with a career-best 61, just couldn't keep pace. The 34-year-old, seeking a third US PGA Tour title, had an eagle and four birdies but tossed in three bogeys that doomed his bid.

Leishman signed for a three-under par 68 that put him alone in second on 264. "It's awesome," said Wise, who was coming off a career-best PGA Tour finish of second two weeks ago at Quail Hollow which he said gave him "just a ton of self-belief".

"I felt oddly calm all day long," added Wise, the 2016 NCAA collegiate champion who was making his 18th tour start as a member. "And to play as good as I did, bogey-free, today was awesome." South African Branden Grace and Americans JJ Spaun and Keith Mitchell shared third on 265.

Grace matched his career best 62 posted at last year's British Open for a 19-under total while Spaun and Mitchell both carded 63s.

Grace had eight birdies and an eagle with one bogey marring his card. Spaun had eight birdies in his eight-under effort and Mitchell had six birdies and an eagle.

Ryan Blaum got in on the birdie action his six birdies on the front nine including five in a row from the fifth through the ninth. He cooled off with three bogeys and two birdies coming in to card a 66.

His total of 268 left him tied with Kevin Na (68) and Jimmy Walker (67).

Curry comes alive, leads Warriors' rout of Rockets

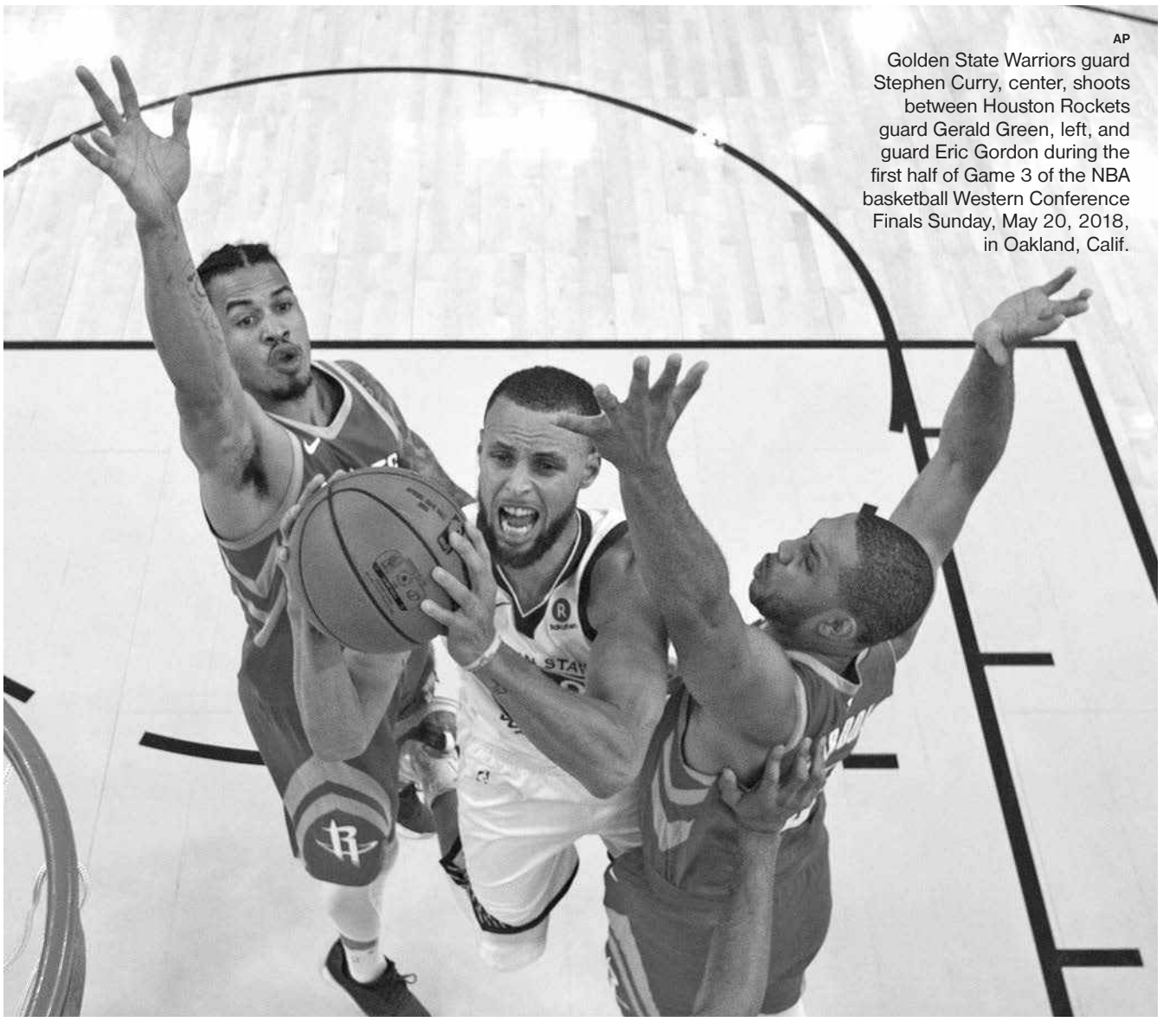
OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry shook, shimmied and screamed, letting his adoring fans and the Rockets know that Oracle Arena was his house.

Once the two-time MVP got his groove back, Houston was helpless.

Curry scored 35 points with five 3-pointers, shooting over James Harden and driving past him as the Golden State Warriors made a second-half statement to beat the Rockets 126-85 on Sunday night for a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference finals.

Curry had 18 points on 7-for-7 shooting in the third quarter, lying with his back flat on the court for his unique version of a snow angel and even following one basket with an expletive, shouting "This is my ... house!" to the thousands who cheered and exhaled, exhilarated by his every move and rumble.

"There's obviously that anticipation when you come in transition and you find an open look and there's a collective hush in the crowd, especially in this building," Curry said. "It's a cool moment. I was searching for it in the first half. I had plenty of opportunities, I just couldn't knock it down. Third quarter it opened up. I've been doing it for a while. I won't let two tough games shooting keep me frustrated."



AP
Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, center, shoots between Houston Rockets guard Gerald Green, left, and guard Eric Gordon during the first half of Game 3 of the NBA basketball Western Conference Finals Sunday, May 20, 2018, in Oakland, Calif.

The 41-point victory was the largest in franchise history during the postseason, topping a 39-point win—85-46—by the Philadelphia Warriors against the St. Louis Bombers on April 6, 1948.

Kevin Durant added 25 points, six rebounds and six assists, while Draymond Green grabbed 17 rebounds to go with 10 points and six assists. The Warriors won an NBA-record 16th consecutive home postseason game, surpassing the Chicago Bulls' mark of 15 in a row from April 27, 1990-May 21, 1991.

"We're in the middle of a hell of a run, obviously," coach Steve Kerr said.

The defending champions got defensive—and maybe a little mad—after a 127-105 Game 2 defeat Wednesday night at Houston, determined to make stops to ignite the transition game and open up 3-point shooters.

Especially Curry, who snapped out of his slump with four in the second half.

"I've seen those explosions happen everywhere, not just here," Green said. "His 3 is similar to some people's dunk. You go to certain arenas and a guy gets a dunk it's just absurd. That's how his 3 ball is. ... Don't mean to disappoint, but I've seen crazier from him."

Harden had 20 points and nine assists, while Chris Paul added 13 points and 10 rebounds as they combined to shoot just 12 for 32.

Game 4 is Tuesday night at Oracle Arena.

Curry and Durant each scored five quick points as Golden State opened the third quarter with a 10-0 burst to go ahead 64-43.

Of riding the emotion with his short—after so many questions about his perceived struggles so far this series—Curry noted, "You've got to be your biggest fan sometimes."

Under pressure from Paul, Curry swished a 3 from way back with 5:06 left in the third. He struggled with his long-range shot again early but drove through the paint at every chance.

Curry hit a baseline 3-pointer at the 9:02 mark of the first but missed his next five 3s before going 4 for 5 in the second half. He is now 7 of 25 from long range—he made one in each of the first two games.

"All it takes is one," Kerr said. Both potent offenses were slow getting rolling as the teams played strong defense.

Harden and Paul began 3 for 14 with Paul missing six shots before getting his first basket on goaltending against Andre Iguodala 2:39 before halftime.

"Offensively we didn't have any thrust, and they exploited it," Harden said.

Golden State began getting the looks it liked after halftime. The Warriors faced more stingy, in-the-face pressure from Houston, making it hard to get any early flow shooting. Durant hit his first 3 6:27 before halftime then missed from the deep the next time down.

A moment of silence was held before the national anthem for victims of the Houston school shooting.

Embarrassed Celtics to bounce back against Cavs

The Boston Celtics are embarrassed despite leading the Eastern Conference finals.

Meanwhile, the Cleveland Cavaliers want to remain in desperation mode.

Cleveland will seek to tie the series on Monday when it hosts the Celtics. Boston leads the best-of-seven series 2-1.

The Cavaliers played by far their best contest of the series when they rolled to a 116-86 win in Game 3 on Saturday. As for Boston, the players were disturbed with their effort.

"I use (Game 3) as fuel. I thought it was embarrassing," Celtics shooting guard Jaylen Brown told reporters on Sunday. "Thought we came out, the way I played, the way I performed, how not aggressive I was in the first half, I look at that as fuel to come out in Game 4 and be excited about it and be ready to play and ready to fight.

"As a mindset, the game is 90 percent mental, so everything that we do affects our mindset. We can't look at the last game and get down on ourselves or think we're out of the series because we lost one game. That's what the world thinks, that's what the world wants us to think, so we're going to come out and play some basketball (in Game 4), regardless of what anybody got to say."

Cleveland coach Tyronn Lue doesn't want his players going into relaxation mode after its Game 3 destruction of the Celtics.

Lue wants to see his players feeling the same sense of urgency that fueled the Game 3 win.

"We know what it takes," Lue said Sunday after the Cavaliers held a film session. "We did it before. We've got a lot of veterans, a veteran crew and they know what it takes to win.

"We can't get satisfied with just one win. It's just one; we've got to come out (Monday) night and duplicate it again."

Lue's message during the film session was elementary in nature.

"Just remind them that this is the way we have to play," Lue said.

Watching film of Game 3 wasn't the least bit entertaining for Boston coach Brad Stevens.

Stevens doesn't want his plays focusing on the mistakes and errors. He wants them to envision making the necessary improvements.

"I think, as coaches, you probably watch it over and over and over and over, and then you try to just trim it to what's necessary," Stevens said after the session. "This team is, again, prideful, competitive. They've been resilient. Nobody felt good leaving the gym (Saturday) night. Nobody felt good when they woke up this morning.

"And so I think that we have to look at what we can do better. There is a physical component to that, and we have to be honest and watch the film and see the things that we got outworked on and see the things that we can just execute better on both ends."

One eye-opening component in Game 3 was that Boston center Al Horford took just four shots and was held to seven points. He averaged 17.5 points over the first two games.

"I just think that we were a little out of sync," Horford said. "I think that (in Game 4) we'll be better in making sure that we have better ball movement. I'm not worried about that. I know I'll be able to get more shots (Monday)."

Cavaliers star LeBron James had 27 points and 12 assists in Game and is averaging 32.9 points, 9.4 assists and 8.9 rebounds in 14 games this postseason.

For some players, changes to draft rules may come too late

CHICAGO (AP)—Mo Bamba is fully convinced that he's ready for the NBA.

He also believes that was the case a year ago.

If Bamba—the massive Texas center who will likely be taking his 7-foot-10 wingspan to a lottery team at the NBA draft next month—was a high school senior in 2020, he probably would have bypassed college and made the jump straight to the league. The expectation around the NBA is that will be the year where so-called "one-and-done" rule will come off the books and players will no longer have to wait a season before going to the pro ranks.

So Bamba went to college and waited his turn, though he's not sure it was needed.

"I thought about it a lot," Bamba said. "It's an area I probably would have explored."

Out of the 30 first-round picks that will be made at the draft, it's entirely possible that as many as 25 will have played no more than one season of college basketball. Some didn't even play in college—there are a couple of European players likely to be first-rounders, and intriguing combo guard Anfernee Simons did a year of postgraduate work at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida.

Simons tested off the charts at the draft combine this week, with a 41 1/2-inch vertical. He's a former Louisville commit, who decided to hold off on college after the scandal that ultimately led to the dismissal of coach Rick Pitino.

"I've just been working hard on all aspects of my game, trying to get better every day," Simons said.

The NBA makes no secret of the fact that one-and-done doesn't work ideally for any party involved—the pro ones or the college ones. The league has talked about making 20 the minimum age where a player can enter the NBA; the players' union has said it would prefer it going back to 18. And now with the college game on the cusp of massive changes amid an ongoing federal investigation, it seems quite likely that the one-and-done policy will be scrubbed soon.

Bamba's reaction to that: About time.

Inter leapfrogs Lazio to take final Champions League spot

MILAN (AP)—Inter Milan is back in the Champions League.

The Nerazzurri trailed, 2-1, with 13 minutes left but fought back to beat 10-man Lazio, 3-2, and secure a spot in Europe's premier club competition for the first time since 2012, following Matias Vecino's late header.

"The Champions League has been our aim since the beginning of the season," Inter captain Mauro Icardi said. "We were aware of our strength from the start and finally we did it -- after a crazy match."

Inter moved fourth with the same number of points as Lazio but with a better head-to-head record. Champion Juventus, Napoli and Roma are the other Italian teams to qualify for the Champions League.

Several Lazio players were in tears after the final whistle.

"We should have probably sealed the Champions League place earlier and not needed to do this in this last match," Lazio coach Simone Inzaghi said.

"Evidently it was destiny. A night like this will remain inside us for a long time."

This was the first year Italy had four spots in the Champions League and the final berth came down to the last match of the season, with Lazio leading Inter by three points.

AP

Lazio's Sergej Milinkovic-Savic, and Inter's Matias Vecino, right, jump for the ball during the Serie A soccer match between Lazio and Inter Milan at the Rome Olympic Stadium Sunday, May 20, 2018.

It was a thrilling match at a sold-out Stadio Olimpico.

Lazio took the lead when Adam Marusic's strike smacked Ivan Perisic in the face and ricocheted into the far bottom corner.

The hosts almost doubled their advantage but Sergej Milinkovic-Savic's free kick came off the post, and Inter leveled in the 29th.

A corner came through to Danilo D'Ambrosio and, although Thomas Strakosha saved his initial attempt, he managed to hook his leg around the goalkeeper to turn it over the line.

Lazio restored its lead four minutes from the break as Senad Lulic threaded a ball through for Felipe Anderson to race forward and fire into the bottom left corner.

Inter was awarded a penalty in the 72nd for a handball by Milinkovic-Savic but the referee changed his mind after seeing the incident again on video review.

The visitors did get a penalty shortly after when Stefan de Vrij, who is set to join Inter next month, fouled Mauro Icardi.

"If someone else had done that foul, nothing would have changed, it was an accident," Inzaghi said. "I would play him again 100 times, he had a great match."

Icardi converted to take his tally to 29 for the season, level with Lazio forward Ciro Immobile at the top of the goalscoring charts.

Lulic was sent off following a second yellow card and the turnaround was complete when Vecino headed in a corner nine minutes from time.

There was no great escape for Crotone this year as it lost 2-1 at Napoli on Sunday in the final round of the Serie A season to drop to Serie B.

Crotone avoided relegation last year on the final day with victory at Lazio after picking up 20 out of 27 points.

Crotone knew that a result at Napoli would give it the chance to escape relegation again.

However, goals from Arkadiusz Milik and Jose Callejon gave Napoli the win as it finished the season with a club record of 91 points. Marco Tumminello scored a late consolation for Crotone.

Napoli, which finished second to Juventus, became the first Serie A side to reach 90 points and still not win the title.

Rival players support seeding Serena at French Open

ROME (AP) -- Several of Serena Williams' biggest rivals believe that the 23-time Grand Slam champion deserves more than just a guaranteed spot in the French Open draw.

Williams, who is expected to play in her first major since returning from maternity leave, should also receive a top seed that befits the No. 1 ranking she held when she left the tour, the players say.

The WTA Tour said it is considering a rule change to add protected seeding for highly-ranked players returning from maternity leave but the earliest that could take effect is next year.

"I would like to see that change," Maria Sharapova said. "It's such an incredible effort for a woman to come back from physically, emotionally. ... There's just another whole dimension to the travel, to the experiences, to the emotions to the physicality of every single day.

"Tennis is such a selfish sport but I think when there's a child in your life you lose a little bit of that, because there's something that's so much more important," added Sharapova, who has lost three Grand Slam finals to Williams.

''So yeah, I definitely think that would be a nice change."

The French Open draw will be made Thursday, with the tournament starting on Sunday.

Each Grand Slam event makes their own decisions on seeding players, so it's still possible that Roland Garros will make Williams one of the 32 seeded players even though her current ranking is down to near No. 500.

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and South Korea's Yisoo Han.

Since she is favored in the tournament and playing at home soil, Lee admitted feeling the pressure of delivering the goods for the host country. However, she said she is up to the challenge, as she aims to pay back the support she has been getting from her fellow players, her family, and officials here by winning this week's contest.

"It's really good to be back home. I've missed my family and friends and there's nothing like home. I do feel the pressure a bit, I won't lie. I know there are expectations that I do well here and maybe even win. I am going to do my best. I've been training and playing on clay recently so returning to hard courts will take some adjusting. I am ready though," Lee said.

Joining Lee on the girls main draw are Coume Kaga, Maria Gregoire, Isabel Heras, Tania Tan, and Malika Miyawaki. The Commonwealth bets will be up against players from Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Philippines, Chinese-Taipei, and Australia.

Kaga will be pitted against Japan and No. 5 Mio Kozaki in the second round, while Gregoire and Heras will face Japan's Nanari Katsumi and No. 8 Manami Ukita in the first and second, respectively. Tan will challenge South Korea's Min Kyo Jung in the first round today, while Miyawaki is paired against Australia's Sasha Nelson.

In the boys singles, the CNMI will be pinning its hopes on Robbie Schorr, Richard Steele, Ken Song, Sean Lee, Seung Jin Paik, and Ji Min Woo, Seung Yun Kim, and Ji Hwan Ryu. Schorr and company will all play in the opening round today.

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golds) and Marianas High School's Jaime Pangelinan (four golds).

McDonald's Middle Road general manager Joe Ayuyu Jr. led the awarding of trophies to the students and was joined in the ceremony by Northern Marianas Athletics president Ray Tebuteb, secretary general Robin Sapong and head coach Elias Rangamar, and PSS athletics director Nick Gross.

"I would like to congratulate all the outstanding athletes for making it this far. Congratulations, too to all the coaches, parents, and the schools. We hope to see you again next year and in the coming years, as McDonald's will continue working with NMA and PSS in having this program. We're happy to be part of it. We're loving it," Ayuyu said.

Tebuteb, on behalf of NMA, thanked McDonald's for its unwavering commitment to the program.

"Words are not enough to express our gratitude to McDonald's generosity. We can't thank you enough," said Tebuteb, who also made special mention of the Fire-DFEMS for ensuring the safety of the students during the May 9 to 12 contest at the Oleai Sports Complex.

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the top of the sixth. However, the Falcons held their ground on defense and frustrated the Little Legals to secure the pennant.

G-Boy Pangelinan had a two-RBI double at the top of the sixth inning to move the Little Legals within one, 7-8, with only one out—a 2-3 play on Austin Diaz. Next up to bat was Benjie Palacios and he advanced to first off Joey Sharry's error, while Cardi Borja had a fielder's choice, forcing Pangelinan to attempt to run home. However, the shortstop was rundown by third baseman Chris Gonzalez for the second out.

Then with Little Legals runners on first and second, the Falcons went on to end the game and their opponent's bid for the pennant when Sharry struck out Reed Camacho.

Meanwhile, before meeting the Little Legals in the pennant-deciding match, the Falcons dueled Bank of Saipan and posted a 4-2 win last Saturday.

Achilles Evangelista was only 1-for-3 at bat, but his two-run single at the bottom of the third inning sparked the Falcons' rally. Bank of Saipan led after two and half innings, 2-0, off Demarlane Santos' RBI double and Craig Perez's RBI single at the top of the first. After Evangelista's hit tied the match, the Falcons went on to grab the lead, thanks to an RBI double from Sharry.

The Falcons then moved up by two in the fourth inning when Mike Tomokane reached off a sacrifice out and the eventual pennant champions hung on as relief pitcher Noah Aguon kept his solid pitching to shut down Bank of Saipan the rest of the way.

Little Legals 12, McDonald's 5

Before bowing to the Falcons, the Little Legals earned win No. 10 versus McDonald's last Saturday.

Pangelinan hit 3-for-4 for the Little Legals and scored two runs and two RBIs.

The Little Legals combined for seven runs in the fourth and fifth inning to foil McDonald's bid for an upset. McDonald's kept the Little Legals within striking distance after three innings with the latter ahead by only 2, 5-3. However, the Little Legals gained more cushion when they got three runs off a passed ball, wild pitch, and fielder's choice in the fourth and Camacho blasted an RBI double.

Earlier at the top of the fourth, McDonald's was done after only four batters and then registered only one run in the fifth off Dane Hodges' RBI single, while the Little Legals countered at the bottom of the fifth with three earned runs to seal the deal. Palacios had a two-run double, while Pangelinan made an RBI single.

Cubs 8, Comets 1

In other results last Saturday, Albert Adriano pitched 5.4 innings and allowed no earned run to lift the Cubs to victory.

The starting pitcher gave up only five hits and scored two runs. Adriano was relieved by Badung Lizama, who got the final strikeout and stranded runners at second and first to complete the Cubs' domination of the Comets. Lizama was 2-for-3 at bat and delivered one run and two RBIs.

AFC Grassroots Football Day

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants, organizers, and volunteers in last Saturday's AFC Grassroots Football Day pose for a group photo at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Coach Mikky Vargas, right, watches a participant jumps over an obstacle before kicking the ball.

Two volunteer coaches huddle with the players before proceeding with their drill.

Jasper Cabaobas kicks the ball after clearing an obstacle course.

Players in the U7 age group chase the ball during a small sided game.

Two female players participate in the "Treasure Hunting" drill.

Players jump over the rings in the "Shooting Obstacle Course."

Participants enjoy the "Hit the Coach" activity.

Ohtani pitches Angels to skid-snapping win vs Rays

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All Schools meet top athletes feted

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The cream of the crop in the 2018 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships were recognized yesterday during a brief awards ceremony at McDonald's Middle Road.

Leading the top performers list this year was perennial winner Rintaro Miyawaki of Saipan International School. Miyawaki took the top honors in the boys U13 division to reign in the age group for the third straight season. The SIS student prevailed again this year after winning gold medals in four individual races—400m, 800m, 1,500m, and 3,000m. The awardees in each age group were based on the medals they brought home in individual events.

In the girls U13 age group, the top performer trophy went to Tinian's Casey Cruz, who collected three gold medals. Two more Tinian students earned top honors in their respective age groups with Ysabella Lenteja and Christopher Cruz ruling the girls U7 and boys U9 divisions, respectively. Lenteja gained three gold medals, while Christopher had the same gold medal output to go with his one silver.

Completing the top performers list were boys U7 and Koblerville Elementary School's Jephda Hong (three gold medals and one silver); U9 and Brilliant Star School's Fiona Regan (three golds); U11 and KES' Sonerson Sorey (two golds and one silver) and Becky Walters (three golds); U15 and Agape Christian School's Arthur Liang (two gold medals and one silver) and Hopwood Middle School's Kiana Aldan (three golds and one silver); and U18 and Saipan Southern High School's Traven Quitugua (four

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The top performers in the All Schools meet and officials and supporters of the annual tournament pose for a photo during the awards ceremony yesterday at McDonald's Middle Road.

Perfect Falcons take pennant

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Talaabwogh Falcons batter concentrates while waiting for a pitch from Bank of Saipan during their game in the Majors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Talaabwogh Falcons completed a perfect run in the regular season en route to clinching the pennant in the Majors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball following a tough 8-7 victory over rival Little Legals last Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The Falcons finished the eliminations with a 12-0 record, while the Little Legals dropped to a 10-2 slate—with both of their losses recorded against the Manny Evangelista-managed Falcons. Had the Little Legals pulled off a come-from-behind win in their second outing versus the Falcons, the former would have forced a rubber match for the pennant.

The Little Legals threatened the Falcons with a late rally at

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Support for CNMI players in ITF Jrs. tourney sought

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association is encouraging the community to rally behind CNMI players that will see action in the 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships.

"We will have our 14 junior players competing in this ITF Juniors tournament and we hope to see spectators at the court to cheer our players on," NMITA official Jeff Race said.

The ITF Juniors ranking event will kick off today with matches in the girls and boys singles. Doubles games will also be played and the competition will run until this weekend at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard court.

Leading the Commonwealth's charge in the Grade 5 event is Carol Lee, who is seeded first in the girls singles draw. Lee just planed in yesterday morning after competing and training in Africa and will play her first game tomorrow against the winner of the first round match between Japan's Uina Igarashi

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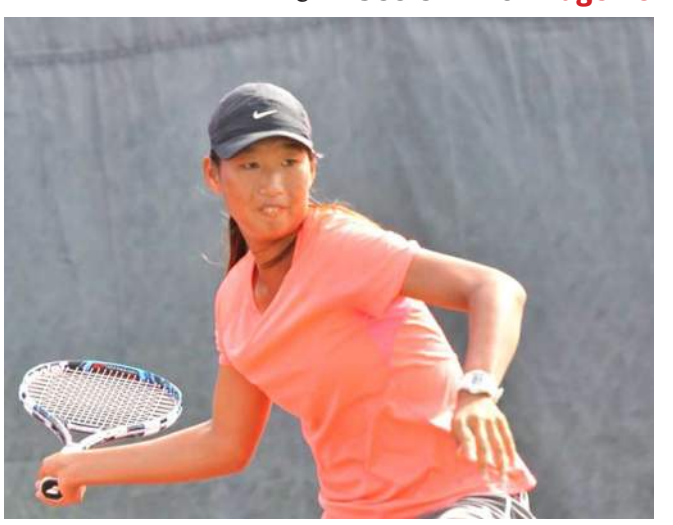

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carol Lee is back on island and is seeded first in this week's 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships.